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Vol. CC, No. 2611
FEBRUARY 18, 1950

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The building of the first Eddystone Lighthouse was begun in 1696 by Henry Winstanley, artist and scientist, and completed in November, 1698.

During the course of the building Winstanley was captured by a French Privateer, but Louis XIV censured the officer responsible and ordered Winstanley's immediate release, adding that he was at war with England but not with humanity, and that a lighthouse on the Edie Stone would benefit mankind.

The lighthouse, which was gaudily painted and contained sumptuous accommodation, was illuminated by tallow candles in the tower, but through over-decoration the whole structure was unstable, and Winstanley, who was visiting the lighthouse at the time, lost his life when it was washed into the sea during the great gale of November 26th, 1703.

No. 2 "Lighthouse" Series

Issued by The Imperial Tobacco Company (of Great Britain & Ireland), Ltd. cc730A

Volume CC No. 2611 The SPHERE, London, February 18, 1950

The SPHERE
WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED "THE GRAPHIC"
THE EMPIRE'S ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY

"FEBRUARY FILL-DYKE" AND THE SEVERN BURSTS ITS BANKS—A LINE OF BARGES AT UPTON-ON-SEVERN, WHERE THE RIVER HAS SPREAD FAR AND WIDE ACROSS THE COUNTRYSIDE AS A RESULT OF CONTINUOUS RAIN DURING FEBRUARY: Six English rivers, the Severn, the Great Ouse, the Avon, the Teme, the Frome and the Biss submerged thousands of acres of farmland last week-end, and emergency measures had to be put into force over a 50-mile stretch of the Severn where hundreds of riverside dwellers had either to leave their homes or take refuge in bedrooms

AT all points between Shrewsbury and Gloucester flood warnings were issued last week-end when the River Severn was in most places 12 ft. above normal and in some places 16 ft. All the way from Worcester, where the County Cricket Ground was submerged, to Upton-on-Severn, where this picture was taken, fields were inundated, and from the air it was often hard to tell where the true course of the river lay. At Bewdley, Worcestershire, 5,000 people in their half-timbered homes were preparing for a siege, and flood committees were hastily organised to deal with 100 families compelled to evacuate their homes with little warning. Police in radio cars toured low-lying districts of Worcestershire issuing warnings to the people.

Postage—Inland, 2d.; Canada, with Newfoundland, 1½d.; Elsewhere Abroad, 2½d.

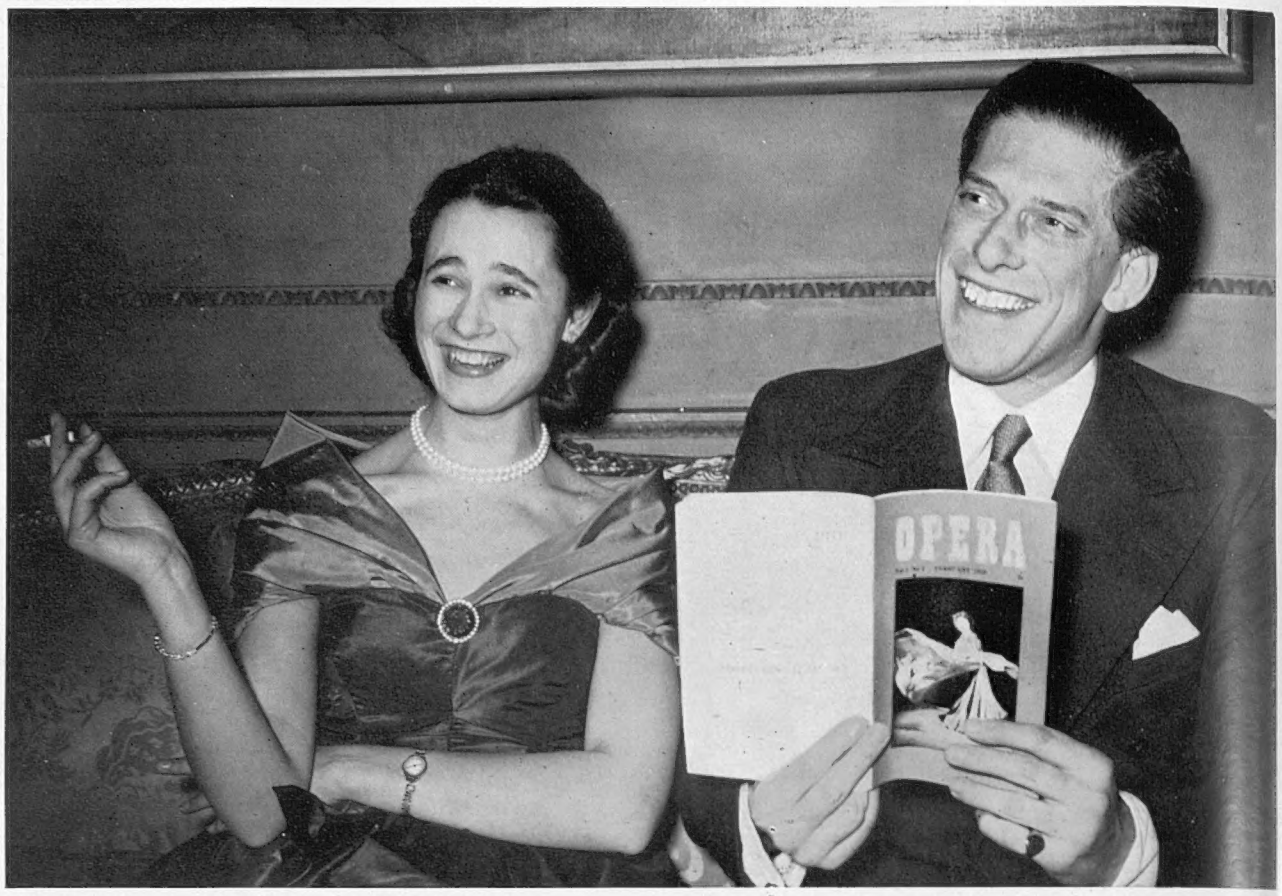
A LONDON NEWSLETTER

1, NEW OXFORD STREET, W.C.1.

Not Long Now.—Cheer up! It won't be long now. The catcalls and insults which now darken the sky will die down and we shall once more take our fingers out of our tortured ears. The religious pre-election services perhaps did some good, but I am not so certain as is Mr. Morrison which proved to be the "gentlemanly" party. Some of his colleagues stole the show, and his drawing-room comedy became a slap-stick burlesque in places. But conscience was always breaking-in, even among the hot-heads, and after the bitterest bursts of hate and insult there would fall little drops of oil. "Indeed, indeed, repentance oft I swore." I am afraid a Minister of the Crown is but a frail, earthen vessel, like you or me. In one sense the Liberal speakers seemed to me the most "gentlemanly." In every Liberal address to which I listened there came at some point a gentlemanly hedging. These Liberals just *could not* force over to their audience any confident belief that they could win the election—the most they could hope from the dog-fight was a faint chance to snatch the morsel of marrow when the big dogs had split the bone. I enjoy listening to Lord Samuel, but even he in the end succumbed to this gentlemanly compromise. I fancy that nothing but burning faith can win this election. The result of it is as completely uncertain in my mind as it was before this spate of arguments, pro and con, burst on our ears. I wonder what percentage of sentences poured out told on the electors? Would it be pitching it high if one ventured to suggest 5 per cent.

Bevan "Explains."—In the last hectic days before the voting, even Mr. Bevan (on advice received) made some effort at Wolverhampton to explain away the "vermin" complex. A man will compromise even with his vanity in the overriding need of keeping place and power. Politics (he said) is not a conflict between rival personalities but between rival principles. It was quite easy for Mr. Bevan to forget the wrongs and injustices of his own youth. All along, he has been unable to forget the wrongs done to others. There was nothing *personal* at all in his invective; he never considered himself, felt no *personal* animosities. It just was that he had for years watched "those Cecils, Stanleys and Churchills" driving into banishment abroad the noblest men and women of this land because there was no living for them in England. Nothing *personal* in that sentence. If he had ever used a harsh word (which God forgive, if one such had slipped out), that word was born of harsh memories of the sufferings of others, not his. It 's the principle of the thing—all pull together and make a lovely new Jerusalem. There is still just time for Mr. Bevan to join Mr. Strachey in the pre-election pulpit. He will adorn it, with the text: "I come to bring peace, not the sword." There is nothing much more shameless and nauseating than the tricks of electioneering.

Mr. Griffiths' Method.—After listening to Mr. Griffiths' election broadcast, I was for a time a prey to almost despair. Emotional I expected him to be, as I expected him to play on the emotions of South Wales and to pour oil on the fires of bitter memories of the years between. But there is a limit, a standard of decency, which even out-and-out demagogues have usually maintained. It is beyond the limit when a Minister of the Crown puts up anonymous Conservatives, "a certain Tory M.P.," "an ex-Minister," and "Tories all over the country," thrusts into their mouths revolting, inhuman political and economic principles (which no politician in his senses would dare to express even if he felt them) and invites his audience to brand those fictitious characters and their fictitious utterances. If a Minister of the Crown has no clearer notion of what is *evidence* as requisite in a British court of law and is prepared to rely in the witness-box on "What the soldier said," then there are grounds for despair. For Mr. Griffiths relied not merely on "hearsay," b t on hearsay fabricated for his own ends of demagogy. And my despair is enhanced by the reflection that perhaps 10 per cent. of his listeners would, and constantly do, accept that type of hearsay as gospel. It is profoundly depressing. It is shocking. And I feel that Mr. Attlee, and Mr. Morrison, too, while grateful for the vote-catching value of Mr. Griffiths' discourse, must have blushed with shame at the methods he employed. And what must have been Lord Jowitt's reactions? He can hardly again trounce a lay magistrate for failing in court procedure or the rules of evidence, if he accept Mr. Griffiths as a worthy colleague and Minister in the Government of a great nation. I have not enjoyed the dog-fight. I am left with a sense of resentment. One pledge made often by the Socialists was to the effect that they would treat the electors as people of common sense and reason and not as children or half-wits. That promise has been torn up by several Ministers, who have scorned our common sense and offered us claptrap. It is a bitter national humiliation to be governed by such men. For they are little, spiteful men and "social justice" is not in them.



LAUNCHING A JOURNALISTIC VENTURE—THE EARL OF HAREWOOD WITH THE COUNTESS AT A COCKTAIL PARTY GIVEN IN LONDON AS A SEND-OFF FOR THE NEW PUBLICATION "OPERA," OF WHICH THE EARL IS EDITOR: In the first number of *Opera* the Earl contributes an article on the opera *Salome*. Among other contributors is the Countess's father, Mr. Erwin Stein. The assistant editor is Mr. Harold Rosenthal, English master at Surrey Square Council School, Old Kent Road, who served with the Earl during the war

To Sum Up.—The next "Newsletter" will appear *after* we have decided what political Party shall rule us on March 1. It is my last chance for a prophecy. That chance I shall not take. I should have a better prospect of spotting the winner in a Grand National field of 100 unknown runners. On the whole, I suppose (with lamentable exceptions among all Parties), the election has been as clean and decent and "gentlemanly" as may be. Our ears have been dinned, our sympathies excited and our antipathies acerbated by arguments and demagogic sob-stuff. Whether we are to-day in a better position for a "right judgment" than we were in January, I do not know. I rather think not. We have heard too much oratory, too much destructive criticism and self-justification; too much about the past, too little light on the future. But vote we must, and according to our conscience rather than to serve narrow, short-term personal interests or mere personalities. And no one will ever know how we vote, unless we tell him. I know how I shall vote. Two thoughts have remained clear with me in the fogs, unshaken in the gales, of argument. Before we are finally and irrevocably committed to the total Welfare State, we shall be wise to give one more chance to that half of our nation which believes that modern ideals of social justice can be achieved without sapping the finest qualities of our race. Post-war Socialism has had a fair trial, and has done some good and perhaps some evil. It is only social and political sense and justice if the voters decide to see whether post-war Conservatism has learned as many lessons and can offer as good or better remedies. For it is the last chance before irreparable commitment to a political theory which has yet to be proved. And secondly, I firmly believe that in voting Labour in 1950 an elector will sign away his last chance of restoring Parliamentary Government as he knew it before 1945. If he lose that benefit of democracy, he loses all that democracy implies. I am a Liberal by tradition. If I lived in a constituency Liberal by tradition, I should vote Liberal and deplore Conservative intervention, just as I deplore Liberal intervention in a constituency Conservative by tradition. I know all the arguments, of which the chief is that no Liberal will in any circumstance cast a vote for a Conservative; *ergo*, it is better that a Liberal should intervene to pick up some votes which could not possibly go to the Tories. I merely answer that that argument is untrue and unsound. I shall prove it on February 23.

The Hydrogen Bomb.—Dr. Garbett is right to "intervene in politics" with an effort to put the menace of the hydrogen bomb in proper perspective among the "burning interests" of our little General Election—*all* of which, compared with the prospect of world suicide, are as important as the spades and buckets of seaside babies. Nor is it only the Church that sees the danger and madness and impiety of this horror. The very scientists who have perfected its manufacture stand in terror and shame before the juggernaut they have built and cry out for its outlawry as a weapon of war. I have been re-reading the diaries of Daisy Princess of Pless—that incredible and revealing tragi-comedy of the last kick of privilege before the wars. Her devoted friends and admirers included King Edward and the Kaiser, and many of their leading Ministers, and to them she was forever writing frank letters containing sharp reproofs and advice as to how the coming tragedy of World War I could be simply and quickly averted. How comic (I thought), how old-world, how monstrous, that a pretty woman of fashion should indulge in these exciting pastimes! Nothing came of her good offices, of course. It was her bright eyes, and not her woman's instinct, which brought her that degree of serious attention. But the *principle* of female intervention does not to-day seem so comic. It is women who give birth to doomed posterity, and they are entitled to protect it if they can by their instinct and intuition. I don't know if there be a Mrs. Stalin. The Iron Curtain keeps her in purdah. But if Mrs. Stalin, Mrs. Truman and Mrs. Attlee or Churchill were given a chance, and got together, how long would it take them to decide the fate of this bomb?

Muzzled Criticism?—The House of Lords decision on the Arnot Robertson Appeal is one which every writer must study. The whole talent of the Bench has been poured out (and £8,000 besides) in arriving at a final decision on a point in the law of libel. An appeal in the final court is always muddling for a layman. He gets mixed up. In this case the film critic sued a picture corporation for libel contained in a letter which the corporation had written to the B.B.C., stating their view that the critic was completely out of touch with the tastes and entertainment requirements of the film-fan millions and her criticism of films unnecessarily harmful to the film industry. The judge of first instance held this letter to be libellous of the critic's reputation, and the jury awarded damages. The Court of Appeal reversed this decision, and now the House of Lords upholds the reversal. At first reading, this final verdict gives me a sense of guilt and anxiety. I cannot believe it is not a critic's duty to seek by all means, honest and reasonable, to improve the public taste in films, plays, art and literature. What else *is* criticism? Then I remember two points: (1) The film corporation was not suing the critic for libel. It was vice versa. (2) I am not a critic of films. No one cares a damn what I say about them. I can go ahead for my own satisfaction. And if one day any criticism I may make about some film which I regard as unspeakable trash should incite its producers to ask my Editor to dismiss me because I am out of touch with public taste and causing unnecessary harm to the industry, I can sue the producers for libel and win damages, provided I can prove that they were only thinking of their own "box-office" and wanted to ruin me personally. I must (to win) also prove that it showed spite against me personally. To be irrational (which I take to be the same as "unreasonable"), stupid or obstinate does not constitute malice in a libel case, though these vices may go near it. Am I clearer now about critics and their rights and risks? Not much. But I don't think that professional or amateur critics are going to make much headway in educating public taste, so long as this decision remains the final word.

THE OLD STAGER

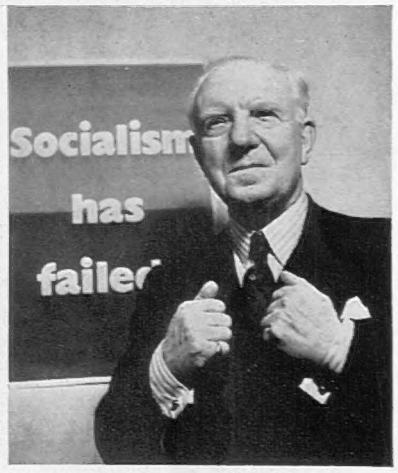
AT THE HUSTINGS

THE PARTY LEADERS STUMP THE COUNTRY AS THE ELECTION DRAWS NEAR

THE PRIME MINISTER SPEAKS FOR AIDAN CRAWLEY FROM THE BACK OF A VAN AT WOLVERTON, BUCKS: Mr. Attlee was making the second call on his election tour in which he has been driven through England by Mrs. Attlee, who is seen in this picture seated beside her husband. On the second day of his arduous tour Mr. Attlee started out from Birmingham and addressed meetings in seven towns, among them West Bromwich, Wolverhampton and Walsall

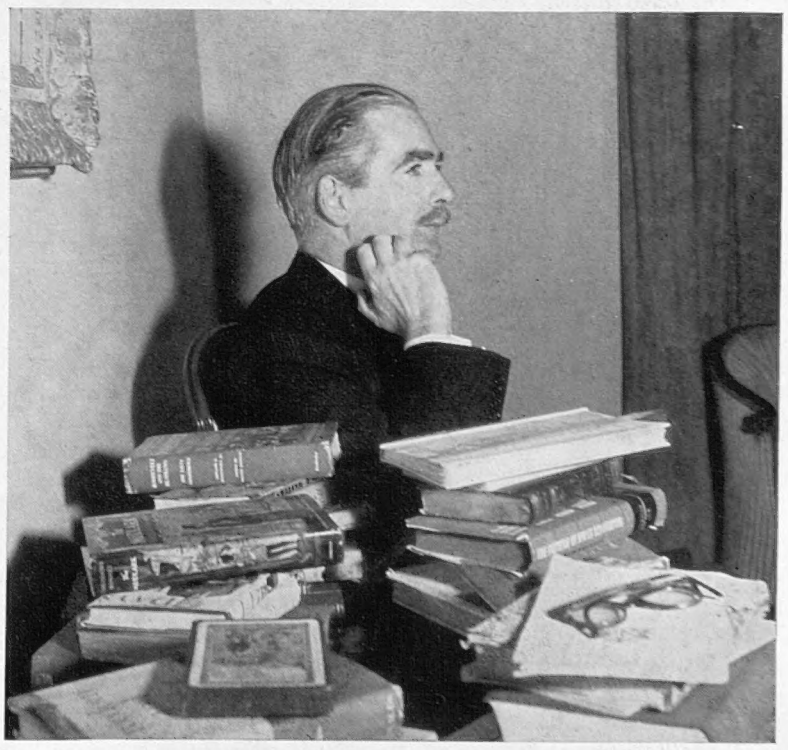
RECORDING MR. ATTLEE'S SPEECH IN THE MARKET SQUARE AT WOLVERTON: Miss Jean Hughes operating a Palantype shorthand machine. By this method of recording any skilled operator can read back the shorthand recorded by another operator

THE PRIDE OF EBBW VALE: Mr. Aneurin Bevan, Minister of Health and Member for Ebbw Vale, seen making an election speech at Liverpool. After his North Country visit, Mr. Bevan came south and followed Mr. Churchill on the battlefield at Devonport



THE PRIDE OF THE CONSERVATIVE HOUSEWIFE: Lord Woolton in front of a poster bearing the words "Socialism Has Failed." Lord Woolton, organiser of the Conservative fighting fund, directs the campaign from Abbey House. Last Saturday night he gave his election broadcast

WINSTON CHURCHILL, FIGHTING HIS EIGHTEENTH ELECTION BATTLE, GOES TO DEVONPORT TO SUPPORT HIS SON, RANDOLPH CHURCHILL, FIGHTING HIS SIXTH ELECTION BATTLE: Britain's wartime leader seen with his son and daughter-in-law before Mr. Churchill spoke on his son's behalf in his fight against Mr. Michael Foot (Labour). Mr. Churchill was given a tremendous reception by a great crowd which gathered in the Forum Cinema, Devonport. Randolph Churchill took the chair at this meeting



MR. ANTHONY EDEN BEFORE THE START OF HIS ELECTION TOUR: The former Foreign Secretary at his home in London as he was about to set out for Newcastle, where he delivered a reply to the broadcast speech of Mr. Griffiths, the Minister of National Insurance. Mr. Eden has for many years represented the Leamington Division of Warwick in Parliament, where, in 1945, he had the substantial majority of 17,634

AT THE HUSTINGS

HOW THE GENERAL ELECTION GATHERED PACE AFTER NOMINATION DAY

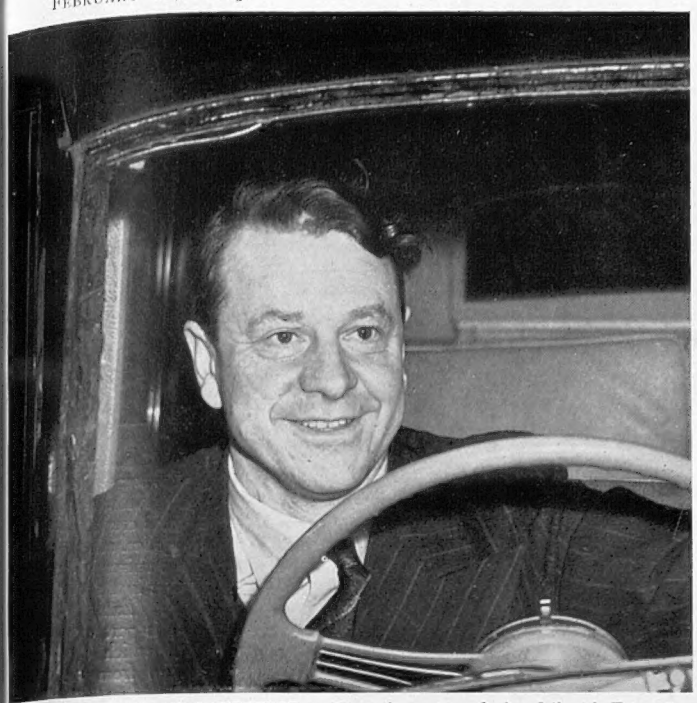
MR. CHURCHILL AT SEVENOAKS : The Conservative leader addressing the electors from the window of the Constitutional Club. Mr. Churchill was speaking on behalf of Mr. John Rodgers. He told his hearers that whatever Government was put in office would have a very hard time. For Mr. Churchill this visit to Sevenoaks concluded a hectic week which had taken him, among other places, to Devonport, where he spoke in favour of his son, Randolph Churchill

MR. CHURCHILL DRIVES THROUGH THE RAIN TO HIS CONSTITUENCY AT WOODFORD : The Conservative leader does not expect a particularly hard fight at Woodford, and, in addition to stumping the country generally he has been lending a hand in neighbouring Epping

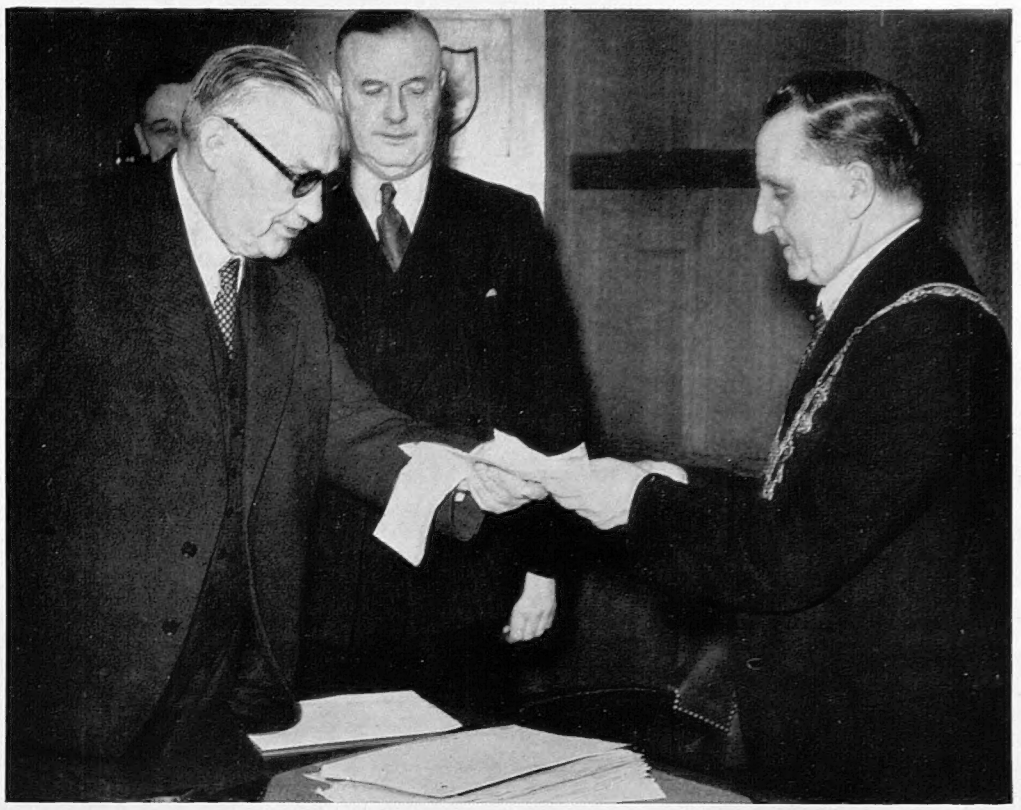
FIGHTING BETHNAL GREEN : Mrs. Dorothy Welfare is the Conservative candidate in this borough, which has for so long been a stronghold of Liberalism. Sir Percy Harris, who represented Bethnal Green from 1922 to 1945, stands in the Liberal interest. Percy Holman represents Labour and Jeff Mildwater stands for the Communists

MRS. CHURCHILL IN THE COMMITTEE ROOMS AT WOODFORD : The wife of the Conservative leader addressing helpers during a visit to the Committee Rooms in Snaresbrook House. In 1945 Mr. Churchill was opposed by a local independent candidate, Mr. Hancock, who polled the surprising number of 10,488 votes to Mr. Churchill's 27,688

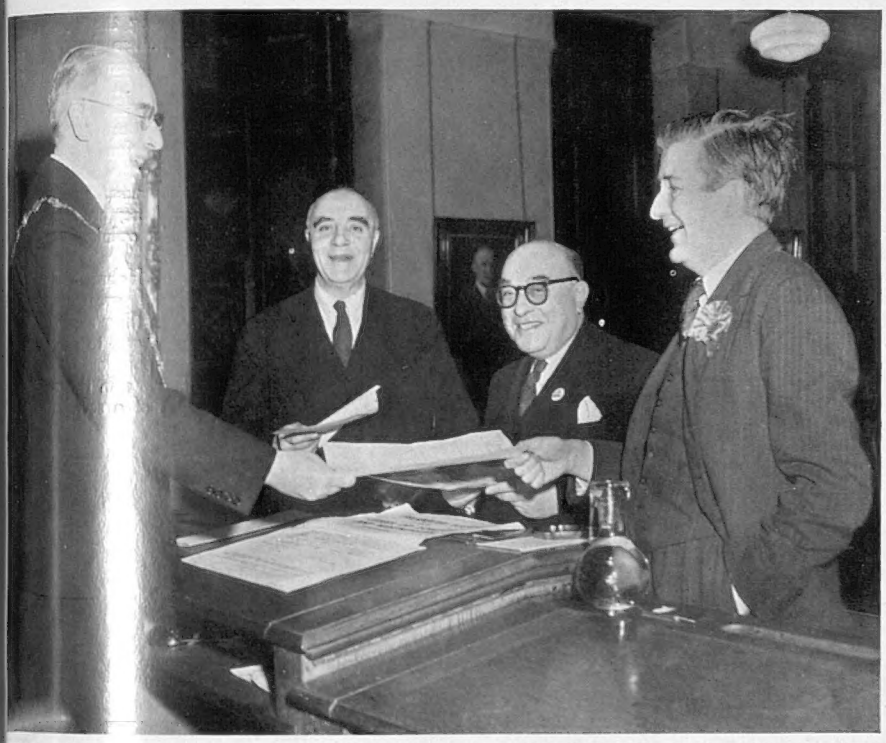
ONE OF THE YOUNGEST CANDIDATES IN THE FIELD : Miss Margaret Roberts, who is fighting Dartford as a Conservative. Dartford is rather a Labour stronghold, but in this first election battle Miss Roberts goes in with the highest hopes



LORD MOYNIHAN'S MISADVENTURE : The chairman of the Liberal Executive at the wheel of his car after addressing a meeting at Epping. It was on his journey home that the windscreen was hit and cracked. Another driver, Admiral Langley-Cook, had a similar experience and police investigations were begun. It was thought that stones, and not bullets, were the causes of the trouble



THE FOREIGN SECRETARY HANDS IN HIS NOMINATION PAPERS : Mr. Ernest Bevin, candidate for Woolwich East, went to Woolwich Town Hall. The Mayor of Woolwich, Mr. Ernest Reeves, is on the right, and the Town Clerk, Mr. David Jenkins, O.B.E., in the centre. Last Sunday Mr. Bevin made a fighting speech at nearby Plumstead



THREE CANDIDATES FOR THE CITIES OF LONDON AND WESTMINSTER SEAT HAND IN THEIR NOMINATION PAPERS TO THE MAYOR OF WESTMINSTER : In the background is Sir Harold Webbe (Conservative). In the centre is Dr. J. A. Gorsky, a well-known local personality who represents the Liberal interest, and on the right is Mr. John Curthoys, who has come over the border from Chelsea to fight this newly constituted division for Labour. The constituency, with 73,000 electors, stretches from Aldgate westward to Pimlico, and includes Buckingham Palace and the Palace of Westminster

MR. LESLIE HORE-BELISHA, ONCE A LEADING LIGHT IN THE LIBERAL CAUSE, IS FIGHTING COVENTRY SOUTH FOR THE CONSERVATIVES : The former War Minister is seen with Mr. Prentice, Conservative chairman, and Mr. Arthur Walker (right), his agent

MR. ATTLEE OPENS HIS CAMPAIGN AT WALTHAMSTOW : The Premier began by holding eighteen meetings in three days and covering 700 miles. With Mrs. Attlee at the wheel he drove north through the heart of England, and last week-end rested at a resort on the west coast of Scotland. Last Monday Mr. Attlee was in Greenock, where he spoke on behalf of Mr. Hector McNeil, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, who is facing a hard struggle with opponents "attacking right, left and centre"

PROFESSOR E. L. SUKENIK HOLDS A PRESS CONFERENCE IN LONDON : The professor of Palestinian Archæology at the University of Jerusalem, who is in this country as a guest of the Friends of the Hebrew University, seen standing beside full-scale photographs of the jars in which the Hebrew biblical scrolls were discovered in 1947 by a goatherd searching for a strayed goat in caves near the shores of the Dead Sea. One of the most important of the finds is the manuscript of Isaiah, a third of which is in the possession of Dr. Sukenik, and a page of which is being displayed for a few weeks at the British Museum. Dr. Sukenik, who is on a two months' visit to this country, is not taking the Isaiah manuscript on his tour, which will take him to at least seven universities, including Oxford and Cambridge. He claims to have been the first to recognise the importance of the scrolls

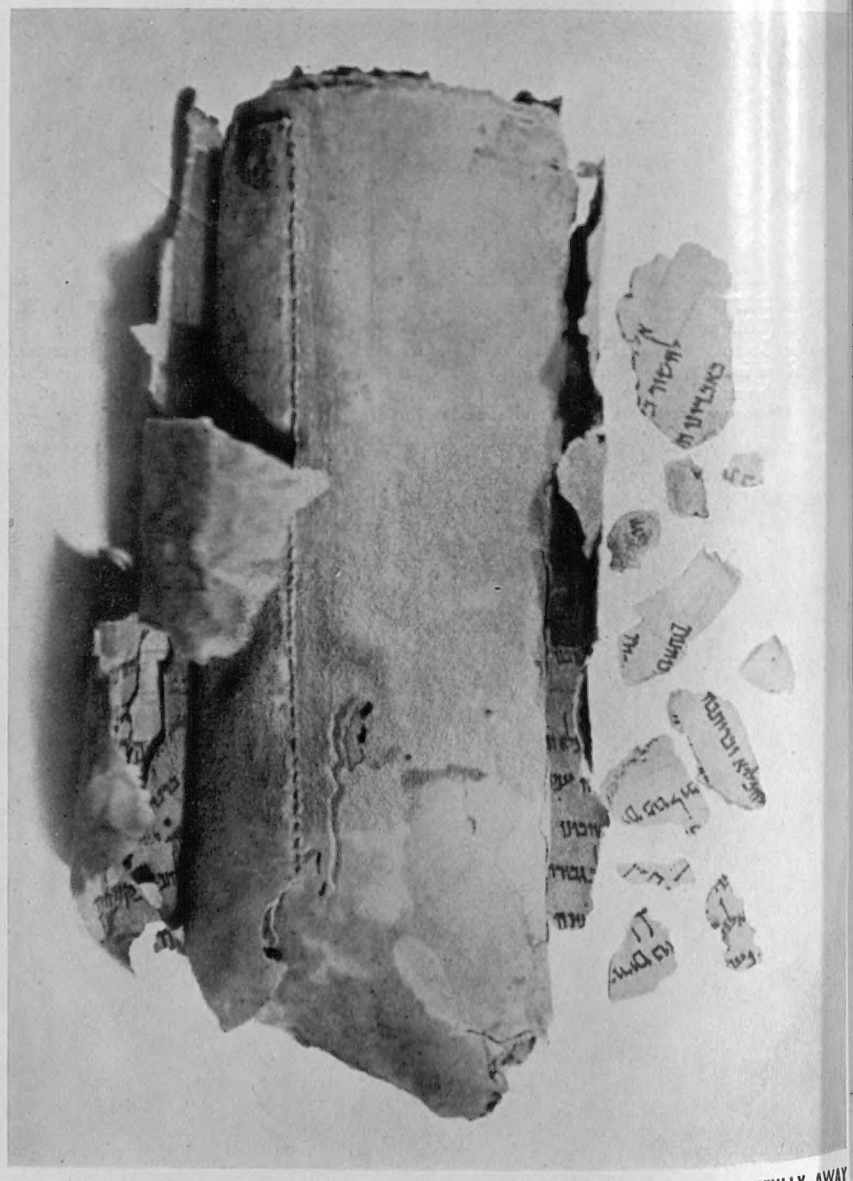
LONDON SEES THE HEBREW SCROLLS

The Text of Isaiah and other Biblical Texts Found by a Goatherd near the Dead Sea

The arrival in London of Professor Sukenik with some of the precious examples of the Hebrew scrolls discovered in 1947 has created the deepest interest among biblical scholars, and his lectures at various universities and other educational centres in Britain are being closely followed. Exhibited at the British Museum is part of the manuscript of Isaiah which Dr. Sukenik brought with him from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Dr. Sukenik has expressed the opinion that the scrolls belong to a period earlier than that of the Hasmonæans, who led the Jewish revolt against Antiochus IV in 150 B.C. Great importance is attached by Dr. Sukenik to two unknown books among the manuscripts. To one of these he has given the name "The Battles between the Sons of Light and the Sons of Darkness." It is concerned with warfare between the Jews and their neighbours, in which the Jews are finally victorious in the seventh battle. The other, which he calls "The Book of Thanksgiving," contains hymns of praise. They are comparable, in Dr. Sukenik's opinion, with the Psalms of David. These two works are written in pure Hebrew. They are expected to be of great service to Hebrew scholars in their study of other books of the Bible and to the Hebrew grammarians and philologists.

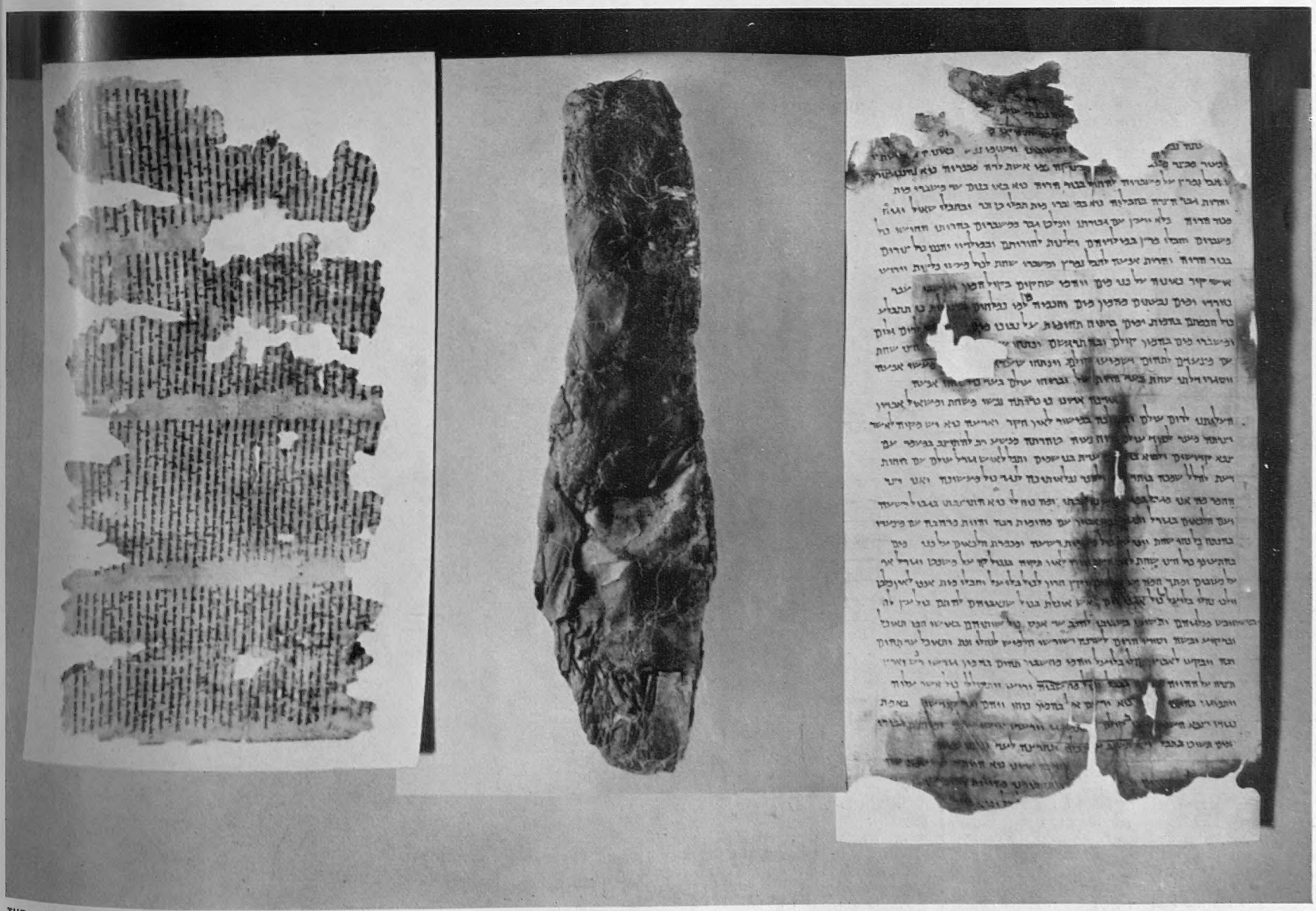
Other manuscripts in the collection concern the rules of a sect antedating the Maccabees.

IN THESE JARS THE SCROLLS WERE PRESERVED THROUGH THE CENTURIES : These jars were taken intact from a cave near the shores of the Dead Sea, and the scrolls within, despite the fact that they are 2,000 years old, have been found to be in a remarkably fine state of preservation. It is hoped to raise a fund to carry out further research by the shores of the Dead Sea

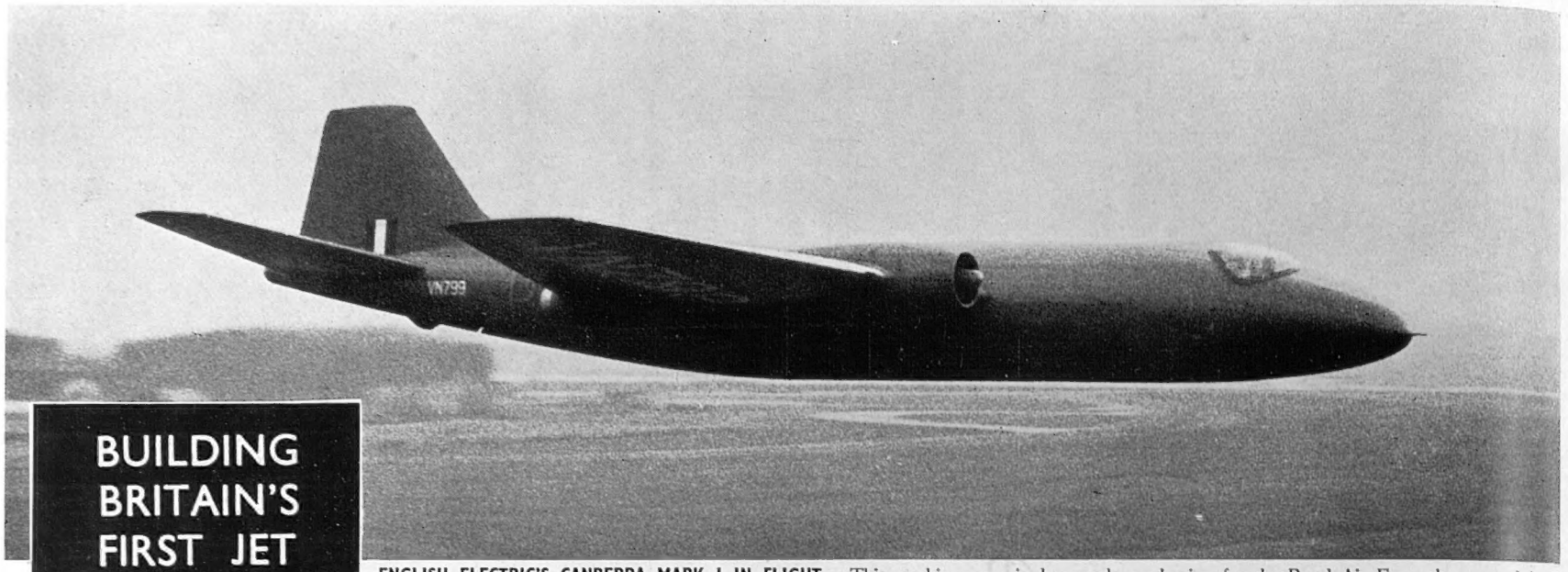


ONE OF THE HEBREW SCROLLS AFTER PART OF IT HAD BEEN PEELED CAREFULLY AWAY FOR INVESTIGATION : Separating the fragments has been a difficult task for the experts. One difficulty arose when a black substance adhering to fragments became sticky with exposure. This was overcome, after several abortive experiments, by the fragments being hardened in a refrigerator

THE ORIGINAL HEBREW TEXTS NOW BEING SHOWN IN LONDON—THEIR DISCOVERY IN 1947 BY THE SHORES OF THE DEAD SEA WAS AT ONCE AN EVENT OF CULTURAL AND HISTORIC IMPORTANCE : These Hebrew texts are probably 1,100 years earlier than any existing texts, and they may now certainly take precedence over the Greek translations. Since the original discovery of the various scrolls, the fragments have been divided, and they are now in the care of more than one archæological organisation. Some are in the Hebrew University at Jerusalem, and others are in America. Last year there was considerable criticism of the fact that not all the scrolls had fallen into expert hands. Fragmentary scrolls have been discovered relating to the books of Genesis, Leviticus, Deuteronomy, Judges and Daniel



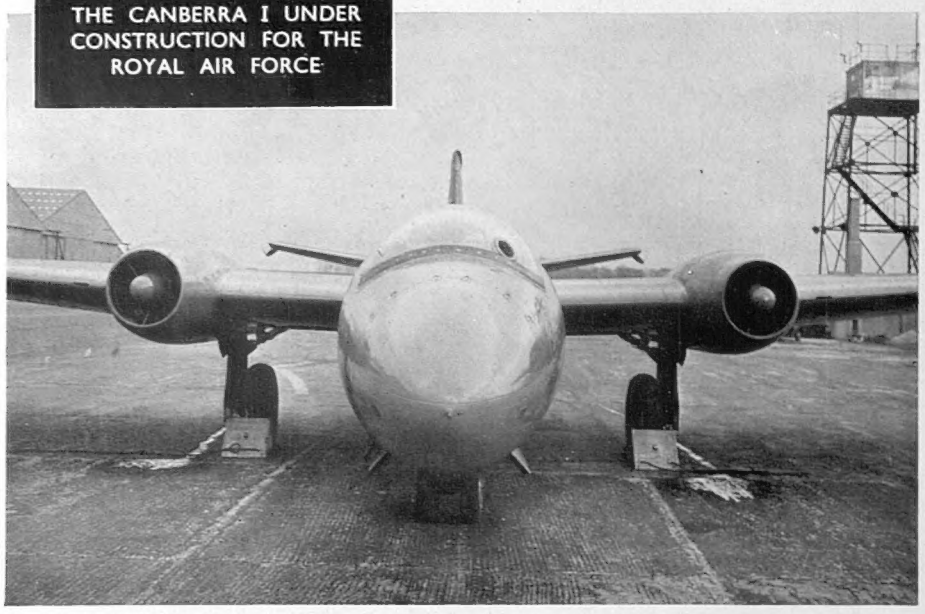
THE ORIGINAL ROLL OF ISAIAH AND THE PAGES OF MANUSCRIPT WHICH HAVE BEEN TAKEN FROM IT : Unravelling this roll section by section has been an immense labour. The manuscripts are superb examples of fine calligraphy on very thin sheets of skin or leather. They show that the art of writing in Hebrew had reached a very high pitch of accomplishment more than 2,000 years ago. Although the manuscripts are about 1,100 years older than the earliest Old Testament manuscripts hitherto known, that of Isaiah has been found to correspond word by word and letter by letter with the received text from which all Hebrew bibles are at present printed



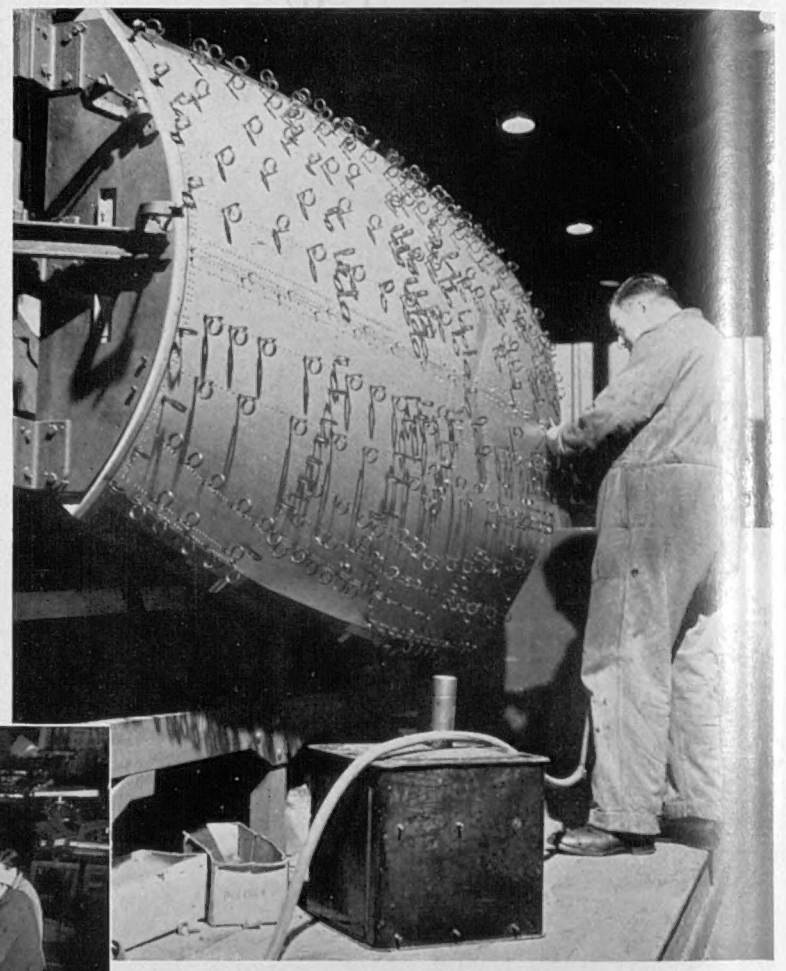
BUILDING BRITAIN'S FIRST JET BOMBER

THE CANBERRA I UNDER CONSTRUCTION FOR THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

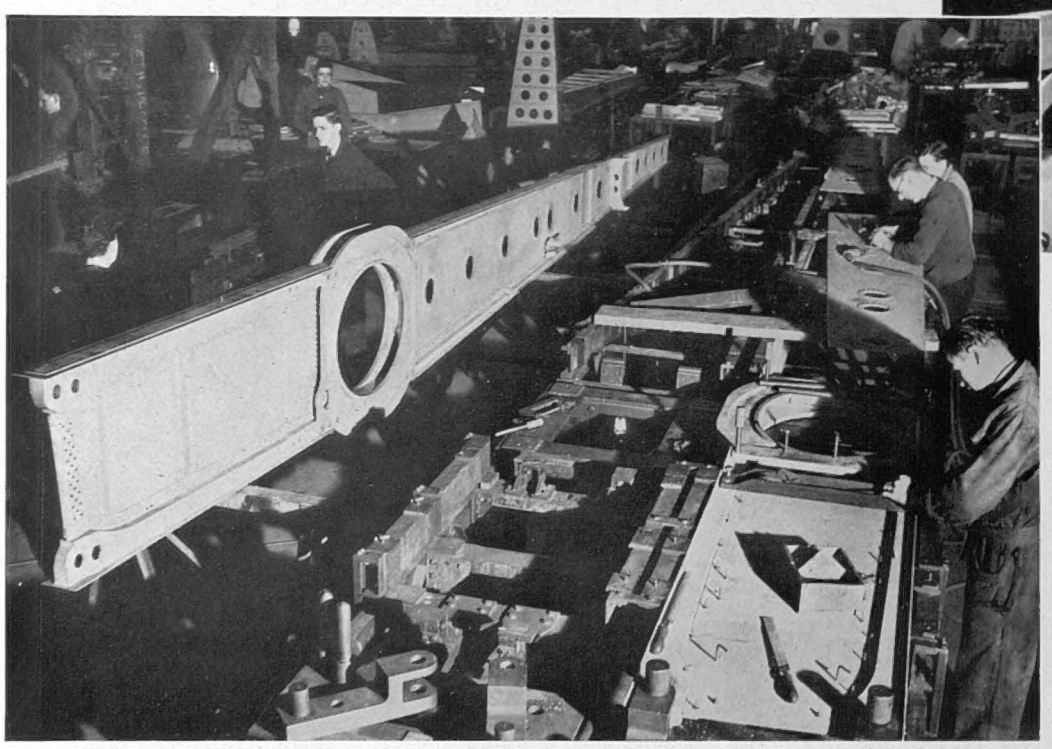
ENGLISH ELECTRIC'S CANBERRA MARK I IN FLIGHT: This machine, now in large-scale production for the Royal Air Force, has proved itself in trials no less surely than has the Comet air-liner. The Canberra has been designed for operation at much higher altitudes than the conventional piston-engined bombers now used by the Royal Air Force, as well as for speeds much nearer the velocity of sound



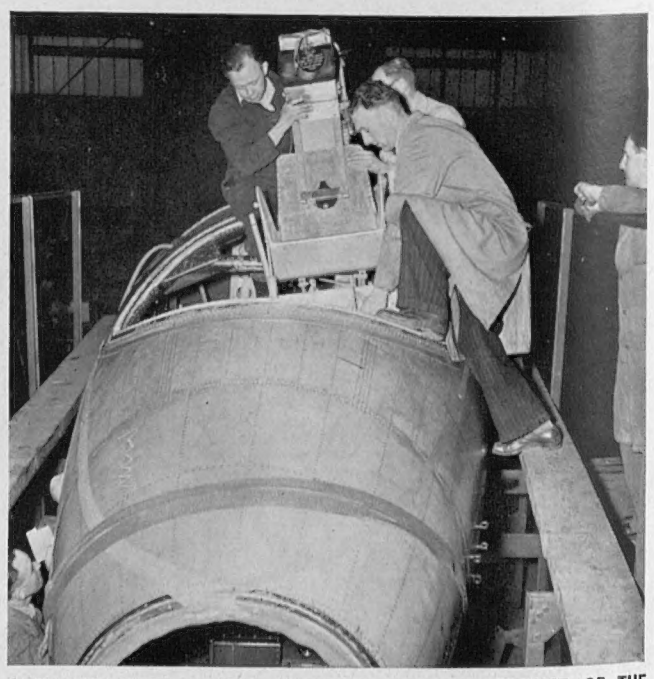
A HEAD-ON VIEW OF THE CANBERRA: This is the pressurised portion of the fuselage accommodating the crew of two, the pilot and the navigator. Both crew members in the Canberra are provided with ejector seats, and sit in tandem, with the pilot offset a few inches to port for better vision. Thanks to the provision of a bubble canopy, vision is outstandingly good



ASSEMBLY WORK ON THE KEEL: Riveting operations on the Canberra at the Warton factory, where the machine is now in mass production for the Royal Air Force



TWO STAGES IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MAIN SPAR: On the left is a spar ready for assembly, and on the right a spar is seen being built in the jig



A PILOT'S EJECTION SEAT IS FITTED INTO THE COCKPIT OF THE CANBERRA: During an emergency exit by the crew, a detonator is provided whereby the canopy and escape hatch are jettisoned and the elevator control-tube severed, so that the pilot's control column is pulled forward out of the way. The seats are ejected far into the air

For the moment Britain has had to accept the use of foreign-made bombers in the Royal Air Force, but there is at least satisfaction in the thought that jet bombers are now beginning to roll off the production line in Britain. The Canberra, with its two Rolls-Royce Avon axial-flow jet turbines, has now passed the experimental stage, and this light bomber, with the speed performance of a fighter, comes to add immeasurably to our prestige in the air. The Canberra's speed is still a secret, as also are the load-carrying capacity and range, but there seems every likelihood that in operation it will more than justify the good opinion of the aircraft formed at the Farnborough Show last year. Although the accent is on high speed, sweep-back has been considered unnecessary in the Canberra on the grounds that it would show little advantage at the speeds likely to be attained within the life of the chosen power-units. Sweep-back was also discarded because wing-nacelle engine installations do much to nullify any advantages that sweep-back may offer.

So far as its general appearance is concerned the Canberra is truly elegant, the symmetrical positioning of the wing on the fuselage and of the engines on the wing, and a complete lack of superficial impedimenta, all contributing to a balanced whole. The fuselage is deceptively slim, for at its maximum cross-section it is about 6 ft. in diameter. Another remarkable feature of the Canberra is that it must surely be one of the few—if not the only—aircraft which have started in life with a dorsal fin and then had it removed.

THE ROTHESAY HERALD PROCLAIMS THE DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT: Lieut.-Colonel Harold Andrew Lawson making the first of the two proclamations from the Mercat Cross, Edinburgh. A few moments before, the Albany Herald, the veteran Sir Francis Grant, had summoned the Scottish Peers to Holyroodhouse, a prelude to the opening of the next Parliament at Westminster. In the street below was a guard of honour provided by the 9th Queen's Royal Lancers

THE HERALDS at the MERCAT CROSS

Proclaiming the Dissolution of Parliament and Summoning the Peers in Edinburgh

Sir Thomas Innes of Learney, Lord Lyon King of Arms, with the Albany, Rothesay and Marchmont Heralds and the Unicorn Pursuivant, was escorted to the Mercat Cross, High Street, Edinburgh, by a guard of the 9th Queen's Royal Lancers to deliver the proclamations dissolving Parliament and calling the Scottish Peers to the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

The first proclamation, that dissolving Parliament, was read by the Rothesay Herald, Lieut.-Colonel H. A. B. Lawson, as the Lord Lyon had a bad cold, and Sir Francis Grant, Albany Herald, read the proclamation referring to the summoning of Peers.

Sleet and snow fell during the ceremony and deprived the scene of much of the colour customarily given to such occasions by the blue, scarlet, and gold tabards of the Lord Lyon and his heralds.

MEMBERS OF THE LYON COURT MARCH THROUGH THE STREETS OF EDINBURGH TO THE MERCAT CROSS: Unicorn Pursuivant, Rothesay Herald, Marchmont Herald, Albany Herald and Lord Lyon King of Arms marching in file flanked by the guard of honour of the 9th Lancers

THE LORD LYON KING OF ARMS TAKING THE SALUTE AT THE SHERIFF COURT HOUSE, EDINBURGH: Sir Thomas Innes of Learney is seen on the left of the line, and standing next to him is Albany Herald

THE "MONARCH OF BERMUDA" TAKES NEW SHAPE AS AN EMIGRANT SHIP: The former Queen of the New York-Bermuda run, which was burnt out in dry-dock at Hebburn-on-Tyne in March 1947, seen at Southampton, where she is in the final stages of conversion into an emigrant ship for the Australian service. Bearing her new name, *New Australia*, the 26,000-ton vessel will make her maiden voyage in April. The *Monarch of Bermuda* had three funnels and two masts. *New Australia* has one funnel and a tripod mast forward which will carry off the fumes from the forward boilers

NEW AND OLD TONNAGE

A Famous Liner Refurbished and an Old Warship Bound for the Shipbreakers

THE OLD "WARSPITE" IS READY TO BE MOVED FROM PRUSSIA COVE TO THE SHIPBREAKER'S YARD: The hull of the once-powerful battleship, which went aground in Mount's Bay when en route to the shipbreakers over three years ago, has been completely stripped by the firm which took over salvage operations. The hull, towed by powerful tugs, will now be brought into port for the final task of breaking up for scrap

A LAUNCH FROM THE SKIES: This self-propelled steel wherry, the *S. A. Wikner*, was launched at the Wallsend-on-Tyne yards of Clellands for the National Gas Board by being lifted from the stocks where she was built and deposited in the water by the giant floating crane "Titan." The wherry will be used for carrying consignments of tar from the Gas Board's by-products works

THE LAUNCH OF THE TANKER "BRITISH DEFENDER": The newly-named vessel about to glide down the slipway at the Sunderland yards of Messrs. Doxford and Son. The *British Defender* is of 8,400 tons; she is the first of four tankers on the same lines which are all to be built by this Sunderland concern

SCOTLAND'S GREAT PEAK AT THE HEIGHT OF WINTER—BEN NEVIS BENEATH ITS MANTLE OF WHITE: Britain's loftiest mountain, the 4,406-ft. Ben Nevis, as it appeared after the late January snowstorms. The sudden advent of the gales and snow disorganised road and rail traffic, and there were reports of parts of Scotland having their heaviest fall of snow for two years. This view of Ben Nevis was taken from Corpach, at the head of Loch Linnhe, and shows the entrance to the Caledonian Canal

BEAUTY FOR SALE

AND OTHER NEWS FROM THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS

THE BANKS OF LOCH LOMOND, WITH BEN LOMOND, WHICH ARE UP FOR SALE: *On left* and *right*, views of the Loch, with the 3,192-ft. Ben Lomond towering in the distance. The view on the left was taken from Luss. More than 11,000 acres, including the mountain, are involved in the sale. Steeped in the clan history of Scotland, the area was for some 400 years in the possession of the Montrose clan. The property along the banks changed hands about a generation ago. The view from Ben Lomond is extensive; on the south-east side stretching as far as Edinburgh. In the lake itself there are thirty wooded islands

RECOMMENDED AS ONE OF THE FOUR NATIONAL PARK RESERVES—THE CONFLUENCE OF THE RIVER LAGGAN AND LOCH ARD, ABERFOYLE, PERTHSHIRE, WITH CRAIGMORE IN THE BACKGROUND: Altogether four national park reserves, twenty-four national nature reserves and twenty-two nature conservation areas have been recommended in a report published by the Scottish National Parks Committee and the Scottish Wild Life Conservation Committee. Investigations to conserve wild life in Scotland have been going on since 1946, and since the year following, surveys have been made to provide the basis of the report published at the end of last year. Only in certain cases would State grants be made to the preservation of wild life reserves. The report covers an area reaching as far north as the Shetlands

THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT BUILDING TAKES ITS PLACE AMONG THE MONSTERS OF MANHATTAN : Exterior construction work on the building of thirty-nine storeys is now more or less complete, and as a result mid-town New York takes on a new appearance. The Secretariat has been built on a site fronting the East River, donated by Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jnr. On the same site there will go up an Assembly Building for the World Delegates, and originally there were plans for a third building on the same scale as the Secretariat. It seems, however, that the third building may not be started for some time to come, as there has been no rush of potential tenants. In the background of this picture is the celebrated Chrysler building, the second largest of the New York skyscrapers

A Foreign Survey

NEWS from EUROPE, ASIA and AMERICA

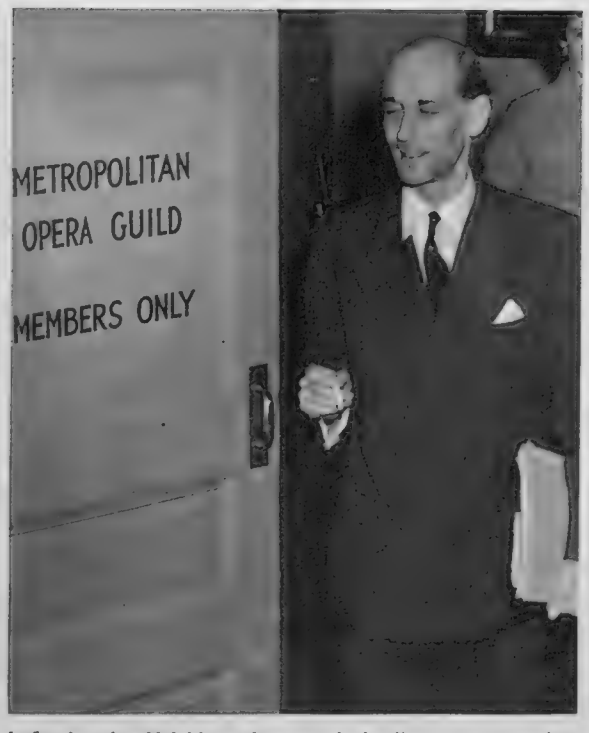
JOHN L. LEWIS REJECTS THE PLAN FOR PEACE IN THE AMERICAN COALFIELDS : The veteran President of the United Mineworkers seen with his Vice-President, Mr. John Kennedy, during the abortive negotiations between their Union and the North-Western Mine Owners. After the failure of this bargaining meeting, President Truman set up a fact-finding Board, and Mr. Lewis eventually accepted the Board's recommendation that the miners resume negotiations for a new wage contract. Lewis's refusal would have inevitably brought about Government intervention under the Taft-Hartley Act. Last week 372,000 miners were on strike

THE SWEARING-IN OF ADMIRAL FORREST P. SHERMAN : Rear-Admiral George L. Russell (second from right), Judge Advocate of the United States Navy, administering the oath to America's new Chief of Naval Operations, who is seen standing on the left. Next to Admiral Sherman, and also with one hand on the Bible and one hand upraised, is Mr. John H. Floberg, who at the same time was sworn in as Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Air. Mr. Louis Johnson, the Secretary of Defence, is seen standing in the background, and on the right is Francis P. Matthews, Secretary of the Navy. Admiral Sherman, a fifty-three-year-old naval air officer, whose appointment has been confirmed by the Senate, is the successor of Admiral Louis E. Denfeld. The latter was removed from his post last autumn following his critical testimony with regard to defence policies before the Armed Services Committee

CAPTAIN WILLIAM D. BROWN, CAPTAIN OF THE UNITED STATES BATTLESHIP "MISSOURI" WHICH WAS GROUNDED FOR FIFTEEN DAYS ON THE THIMBLE SHOALS OFF THE COAST OF VIRGINIA, FACES A NAVAL BOARD OF INQUIRY : Captain Brown (left) with his Counsel, Captain G. C. Wood, at the start of the fact-finding case held at Norfolk, Virginia. Captain Brown and two of his officers, the navigator and the operations officer of the ship, were officially designated as defendants. The defendants have the rights of accused before a court martial, but it has been pointed out that the inquiry has been limited to fact-finding. Rear-Admiral Miles, who presided over the court, told his hearers that the court could order a court-martial as a result of the findings, or any other procedure for trial which it might think fit. Admiral Miles paid a visit to the *Missouri* during the course of the inquiry

THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN FRANCE AND THE SAAR TERRITORY : Herr Johannes Hoofmann (third from left), Prime Minister of the Saar, seen with his fellow-Ministers at the start of the conference at the Quai d'Orsay with a French delegation led by M. Pierre Schneiter, the acting Foreign Minister of France. The negotiations have been designed to modify the terms of the occupation and increase the autonomy of the Saar. Five conventions are being drawn up, and these will regulate relations between the Saar and France pending the signature of a peace treaty with Germany. The first of the conventions concerns the status of the Saar mines and the length of time they will continue to be exploited by France

THE END OF A YUGOSLAV SPY TRIAL : The defendants in the Skoplje District Court in Belgrade as they were lined up to hear their sentences after charges of engaging in Cominform activities had been proven. The six Macedonian defendants, who are on the left of the line, received terms of imprisonment varying from five to thirteen years. On the right are Pande Ljorovski and Blagoj Spasevski, who were sentenced to be shot. Spasevski, a former battalion commander, and Ljorovski, a former lieutenant in the Yugoslav Army, deserted to Bulgaria in the summer of 1949 and apparently returned in November 1949 with orders to contact and organise Cominform sympathisers in Yugoslavia in preparation for an armed rising



MUCH ADO AT NEW YORK'S METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE: *Left*—Lauritz Melchior, the opera's leading tenor, receives a kiss of approval from his wife after what has been described as the final performance of his career at the Metropolitan in Wagner's "Lohengrin." A feud with Rudolf Bing, the new manager of the Opera House, is said to be the cause of Melchior's walk-out. *Right*—Mr. Bing leaving the conference room at the Opera House after meeting the Press. Mr. Bing said nothing about Lauritz Melchior's standing with the company, but announced that both Helen Traubel and Kirsten Flagstad would appear under his management during the season

FOUJITA RETURNS TO PARIS: The celebrated Japanese painter of animal and bird life alighting from the boat train in Paris, accompanied by his wife, after journeying back to France via the United States. Foujita, now sixty-four years old, was a Colonel in the Japanese Army during the Second World War

HONG KONG POLICE SET UP BARRICADES IN RUSSELL STREET: Armed with shields and lathis, members of the police prepare to deal with striking tramwaymen in the event of further trouble. The riots which followed the strike, and made necessary stern police action, are said to have been fomented by Chinese Communists

THE HONG KONG POLICE AND THE MARINE POLICE AT ONE OF THE RUSSELL STREET BARRICADES: Sub-Inspector T. W. Wheeler (extreme right), of the Marine Police, and other members of the Marine force on duty in Hong Kong, after the pitched battle between police and rioters in which nearly fifty people, some of them women, were injured. Police threw tear-gas bombs into angry crowds which massed in Russell Street in sympathy with the tramwaymen, whose strike for more pay started on December 22. Rioters brandished chair-legs and bottles as they stormed the cordon. It was estimated that, at the peak of the battle, 10,000 people crowded the Russell Street area where the tramwaymen's trade union offices are situated. The police incensed the crowd when they attempted to prevent the loud-speaker relay of a meeting at the union offices

THE UNWANTED WANDERERS OF EUROPE: Ukrainian Displaced Persons at Ulm leaving their quarters for another part of the city after requests for their removal had been relayed through the German civil authorities to the American authorities. The D.P.s, many of them sick and ailing, were told they must move without making any demonstrations. They were warned that if they did demonstrate they might lose support of the relief organisation responsible for their welfare

THE NIZAM OF HYDERABAD TAKES THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE NEW INDIAN REPUBLIC: The Nizam (right) with Mr. M. K. Vellodi, Chief Minister of Hyderabad, making his declaration on being sworn in as Rajpramukh of Hyderabad in the Jubilee Hall, Secunderabad. The Nizam once ruled over India's largest independent State, occupying the central portion of the great Deccan plateau. Hyderabad declared for complete independence after the lapse of British paramountcy, but India sent in armed forces and the State now adheres to the vast federation of the new Indian Dominion

THE "SURDOUÉS" of MONTPELLIER

Children of Advanced Intelligence are Now Brought Together in a Special School Suited to Their Abilities

For the past eighteen months an educational experiment has been going on in France which, by reason of its imaginative scope, has been attracting more and more attention from scholastic authorities throughout the world.

This experiment is concerned with the education of those children—in France they have coined the word "surdoués" to describe them—whose intellectual development and sensibility are far in advance of the average for their own age.

At Montpellier, on the southern coast of France between Toulouse and Marseilles, a special class has been set up, under the initiative of M. Pierre Weiss, ex-chief administrator of the district, with the valuable help of the local Schools Inspector, M. Pons, and the concurrence of D. Lafont, the object of which is to go far beyond the curriculum of a normal secondary school.

This first class of "surdoués" at present contains fifteen boys and girls between the ages of seven and eleven years. It is not really suggested that any of these children are infant prodigies, nor can they be considered geniuses in the normal meaning of the word. They are merely particularly lively spirits whose senses of observation, reflection, memory, invention, reason and imagination are so highly developed that their general level of intelligence is far in advance of their physical age.

Take, for example, the case of a small boy of ten years; he is capable of enquiring into, assembling and making an absolutely systematic documentation of any subject given to him with an astounding sense of method in a manner which one would not normally expect from an intelligent student of seventeen or eighteen, unless he happened to have a particularly scientific mind. Or consider the little girl who, without any warning, was presented with a silkworm and, purely by careful observation, was after a short while, and without recourse to reference books, able to describe in all its essentials the manner of life of this insect.

This little girl's neighbour in the class is an infant of eight who writes essays with a style and imagination which would be precocious in a girl of fifteen; she has a richness of vocabulary, imagination and expression which is truly astounding.

It is hoped that when these children find themselves in the company of parallel intelligences, their nervous disorders will fade. In children endowed with unusual imaginative powers a pathological timidity is often aroused; a boy largely in advance of his age by virtue of his powers of observation and reason, and with the excessive nervousness which is symptomatic of these powers, creates serious disquietude in his parents. It is in order to combat this disharmony, which threatens to compromise the sane development of the intelligence and physique of these precocious children, that this special class has been instituted.

That is the primary aim of the principal of the class, Mlle. Debroas; and the results that have been obtained during these first eighteen months prove how perfectly fitted she is to carry out this delicate task. As well as being a professional teacher, Mlle. Debroas is a qualified psychiatrist. The results so far obtained in this class have clearly shown that individual and sympathetic treatment, based on close observation both in and out of school hours, can bring about startlingly tangible changes in these cases of rather marked nervous disorder.

In the class of "surdoués" they do not use the scholars' books of an ordinary school; the teaching is by precept more than by rule, and they do not keep a rigid scholastic programme. Teaching is improvised on the spur of the moment, being woven round some fact that one of the children has just discovered.

One morning one of the students brought to school a small collection of postcards and objects which her aunt had brought back from a voyage to Morocco. There followed an hour of instructive discussion about Morocco. After this improvised geography lesson, a little white mouse appeared which became the star turn of the afternoon. Besides providing a very amusing diversion, he proved the starting-point for a natural history lesson which enchanted the children.

Mlle. Debroas has made a chart of the progress of each of her pupils. The little tests she holds enables one to trace exactly the intellectual development of the child, and to compare their progress away from that nervous state which was theirs when they entered the class.

Parents declare themselves as very well satisfied with the results so far obtained at Montpellier and consent without reserve to their children forming the material of this important educational experiment.

A CLASS FOR "SURDOUÉS" AT THE SPECIAL SCHOOL FOR HIGHLY-ADVANCED CHILDREN IN THE SOUTHERN FRENCH UNIVERSITY TOWN OF MONTPELLIER: This educational experiment has been going on at Montpellier for the past eighteen months, the twofold purpose being to lay aside the rigid scholastic programme of the normal school in favour of a more imaginative curriculum and to release the children from the inevitable nervous and psychological troubles which assail them when their advanced intelligence creates disharmony among other children of their own age. In the hours the children spend in the classroom they occupy themselves as they wish. The instructress observes them to find out in what manner their talents can be best assisted

THE ULTRA-MODERN SCHOOL SET ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF MONTPELLIER, IN THE PROVENÇAL COUNTRYSIDE: Some of the infant prodigies grouped round their instructress outside their classroom. She is a fully-qualified psychiatrist

FRANÇOISE RIGAUD DOES A BLACKBOARD EXERCISE : This nine-year-old daughter of a Provençal bailiff has joined the "surdoués" by reason of her remarkable powers of reasoning and judgment. Françoise says she is happy working in this special class

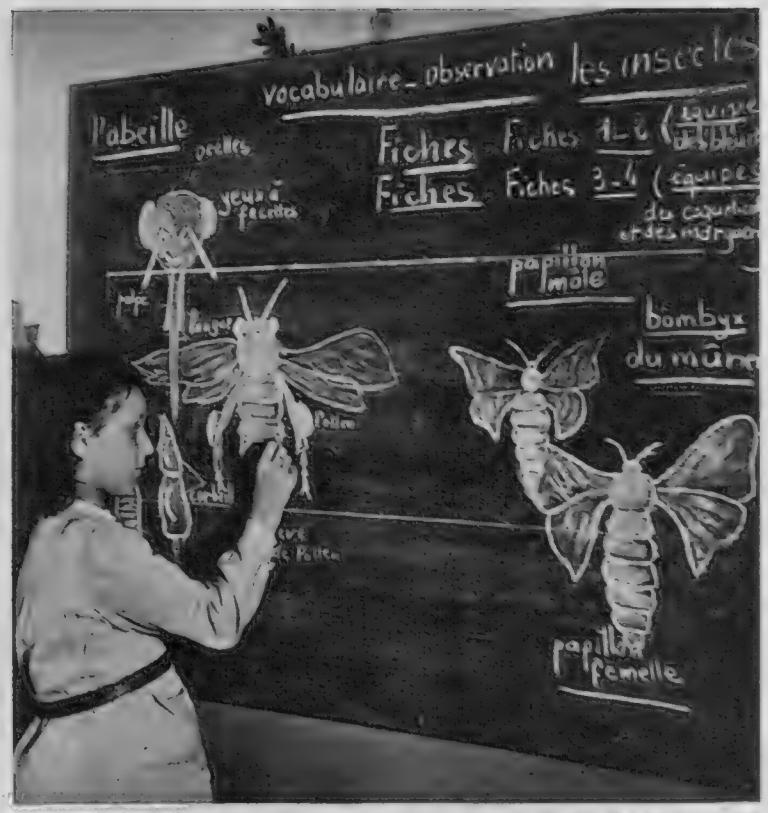
ALAIN JEAN-JACQUES AND HIS SPIDER'S WEB : Alain, aged eight, has obtained permission from his instructress to keep a spider's web intact in the corner of the classroom. He feeds dead flies to the spider and takes notes on the spider's habits

HELEN MASSÉ IS THE VETERAN OF THE CLASS OF INFANT PRODIGIES : With the ease and eloquence of a practised teacher, she is seen demonstrating to her classmates the life and habits of the silkworm

GUY DUFES HANDLES HIS MICROSCOPE LIKE A UNIVERSITY STUDENT : Guy is nine years old and is determined to become a scientist

ROSELINE TALEGRAND, DISEUSE : This ten-year-old recites poems and acts scenes from the stage with brilliance. Here she is reciting one of Rosalind's speeches in *As You Like It*

THEY CALL HIM "THE EXPLORER" : François Mathieu with his white mouse. He observes animals with the patience of a zoologist, and he is also keen on geography. When he grows up he hopes to travel



TWO NINE-YEAR-OLDS WITH AN ARTISTIC FLAIR : *Left*—Pierre Blanche, whose designs and engravings occupy a large part of his spare time. *Right*—Helen Bousquet makes analytical drawings of flowers, animals and insects with a precision that is almost scientific. The "surdoués" come from many sections of the community. The daughter of a butler rubs shoulders with the son of an engineer. All these precocious children have one thing in common—they come from fairly large or large families

THE MILFORD HAVEN WEDDING

Over 500 People Attend the Ceremony in Washington

The much-heralded wedding of David Michael Mountbatten, third Marquess of Milford Haven, grandson of the first Marquess of Milford Haven, a former First Sea Lord, and nephew of Vice-Admiral Earl Mountbatten of Burma, took place on February 5 in Washington, D.C., where it was very much the social event of the week. Between 500 and 600 people thronged the National Presbyterian Church for the simple ceremony, and many thousands gathered outside to see the arrival of the bride, Mrs. Romaine Simpson. The British Embassy was well represented, even providing one of the ushers in the person of Earl Jellicoe, Second Secretary at the Embassy, son of the celebrated naval commander of the First World War.

Mrs. McIlwaine, the bride's mother, held the wedding reception in her flat and guests necessarily had to be limited to close friends. A four-tiered cake occupied the centre of the dining-room table and was decorated with angels, hearts, doves and entwined lilies.

THE OFFICIAL WEDDING GROUP AT THE HOME OF THE BRIDE'S MOTHER: The Marquess of Milford Haven with his bride, the former Mrs. Romaine Simpson, after the wedding ceremony which took place at the National Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C. Seated (second from left) is Earl Jellicoe (Second Secretary at the British Embassy) and seated (second from right) is Colonel J. Drexel Biddle. On the bridegroom's right hand is Mrs. McIlwaine, the bride's mother

AFTER THE WEDDING AT THE NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WASHINGTON, D.C.: The Marquess of Milford Haven and his bride set out for the home of the bride's mother

CUTTING THE FOUR-TIER WEDDING CAKE: The Marquess of Milford Haven and his bride

THE BRIDE ARRIVES: Mrs. Romaine Simpson and her uncle, Mr. Houghton Metcalfe, at the entrance to the Presbyterian Church. The bride carried orchids

GREAT CROWDS GATHERED OUTSIDE THE NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN WASHINGTON, D.C.: *Left*—The throng at the approaches to the church. *Right*—Women peering into the canopied entrance in the hope of obtaining a glimpse of the bride and bridegroom as they left after the service. Among those attending the service were Lady Franks, the wife of the British Ambassador in Washington, and Sir Frederick Hoyar Millar, who is Minister at the British Embassy

SPEED MERCHANTS OF THE ICE AND SNOW

The Bobsleigh Championships at Cortina and Helicopter Ski-jöring at St. Moritz

THRILLS AND SPILLS OF THE WORLD FOUR-MAN BOBSLEIGH CHAMPIONSHIPS AT CORTINA D'AMPEZZO, IN THE DOLOMITES: *Left*—Members of the Swiss team taking a bend in fine style, their bob nearing the summit of the almost-vertical wall while spectators above keep their eyes glued on the track ahead. *Right*—Members of the Norwegian team being helped from their bob after they had crashed at Crystal Corner, the most dangerous bend on the Cortina course. The championships were won by the American team with a total time of 5 mins. 28·72 secs. for the four runs. The Swiss were second, and beaten only by a narrow margin

HELICOPTER SKI-JÖRING, A NEW SPORT, IS TRIED OUT IN SWITZERLAND: A helicopter is seen drawing three skiers over the St. Moritz lake at breathless speed. These skiers have reached speeds up to 65 m.p.h. on the level, and the new sport is shown to be quite practicable, but it is for expert skiers only

The first experiments in ski-ing behind a low-flying helicopter have proved most successful and spectacular, and it looks as if helicopter ski-jöring has come to stay as a winter sport. Top speeds up to 65 m.p.h. have been achieved on the level surface of the lake at St. Moritz by test pilot Andre Villars, who has trailed behind his helicopter Rudolf Rominger, the former downhill and slalom world champion, and Edi Rainalter, the Olympic slalom star. A small jumping-hill was erected after the success of the initial tests on the flat and the experts made several jumps of 75 ft. Downhill speeds have been achieved up to 80 m.p.h. under ideal snow conditions. The least irregularity in the snow surface can throw the helicopter ski-jörer off his balance.

Ski-jöring with horses has long been popular at the leading Swiss resorts, but the new sport is two or three times as fast. In all probability, also, it will prove two or three times as expensive.

DRAWN BY A HELICOPTER OVER A SPECIALLY RIGGED SKI-JUMPING HILL AT ST. MORITZ: Two expert skiers seen at a dramatic moment during a test run. They hold on to the tow-rope with one hand. The rope has a quick-release knot in case of a mishap during the jump

YULE HOUSE, THE TRADITIONAL JUDGE'S LODGE, WHERE LORD GODDARD SPENT THE WEEK-END IN OAKHAM, COUNTY TOWN OF ENGLAND'S SMALLEST COUNTY: For the occasion Mr. Arthur Hassan, a local business man, was displaced. This was the first time for twenty-five years that the lodge had been occupied by the Assize judge, and it was the first time for fifty years that a Lord Chief Justice of England had gone to Oakham to open the Assizes. Preceded by the High Sheriff of the County, Sir Henry Tate, Lord Goddard went in procession from the market-place to the Banqueting Hall, which is all that remains of the original Norman castle. There he conducted the business of the Assizes, lasting only 3½ hours

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE AT OAKHAM

THE PAGEANT OF ASSIZE IN ENGLAND'S SMALLEST COUNTY

Lord Goddard Adds a Horseshoe to the Famous Collection

OAKHAM CASTLE, WHERE THE ONE-DAY ASSIZES WERE OPENED BY THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE OF ENG of the Banqueting Hall is all that remains of the original Oakham Castle, built between 1 later created Earl Ferrers. The original roof was replaced 400 years ago. The hall is fa

PRECEDED BY SIR HENRY TATE, HIGH SHERIFF OF THE COUNTY OF RUTLAND, LORD GODDARD, THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE OF ENGLAND, WALKS IN PROCESSION TO MORNING S ALL SAINTS', OAKHAM: Trumpets, played by an insurance agent and the landlord of Oakham's Blue Bell Inn, heralded the approach of Lord Goddard to the Church Lord Goddard presented a horseshoe to the Lord of the Manor in accordance with the local tradition that every visiting nobleman must do so on his first

RD, LORD GODDARD: This part
and 1200 by Walkline Ferrers,
us for its display of horseshoes

RVICE AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF
of All Saints'. While in Oakham
appearance in the town

THE BANQUETING HALL OF OAKHAM CASTLE, WHERE THE 3½-HOUR ASSIZES TOOK PLACE: On the wall in the background and on the right are the horseshoes which visiting royalty and members of the nobility have presented to Oakham in times past, and to which Lord Goddard added on his visit to open the Assizes. Above the dais is the horseshoe given by King George VI on his visit to Oakham in 1944, and on the left, with the Three Feathers device inset, is the horseshoe presented by the Prince of Wales (now Duke of Windsor) in 1921. The large horseshoe in the centre commemorates the visit of the Prince Regent (later George IV) in the year 1814. The biggest shoe in the collection was given to Oakham by Queen Elizabeth

At Oakham, Assizes have been a rarity in the past quarter of a century and, in fact, there was a gap of twenty-two years before the Assizes of 1947. Legal business has, indeed, not been brisk in Rutland's quiet county town, and when Lord Chief Justice Goddard appeared there at the beginning of February, he was able to dispatch the malefactors of Rutland in the space of three and a half hours, there being three criminal cases and one civil action. The Lord Chief Justice spent the week-end at Oakham before journeying on to Lincoln, and in the wake of many royal personages and many noblemen before him he left behind him a horseshoe as a traditional offering for the Lord of the Manor. This, in due course, will adorn the walls of Oakham's historic banqueting hall.

THE BOYS OF OAKHAM SCHOOL WATCH THE JUDGE'S PROCESSION BEFORE THE OPENING OF THE ASSIZES: Oakham School was founded in 1584 by Archdeacon Robert Johnson. Its constitution was entirely remodelled in 1875, and it is now a public school

THE "VOICE" OF THE WOODPECKER

A New Theory on How the Sound is Produced

By JOHN RIGNALL

John Rignall, basing his findings on observations made in Battersea Park, South-West London, between September 1949 and January 1950, here gives his considered verdict on a question that has long exercised the attention of ornithologists. "Drumming," he declares, "is a mechanical note produced by percussion." It is not a question of voice production.

FOR more than a decade, the hollow, vibrant note, or "drumming," produced by certain woodpeckers has been the subject of controversy among ornithologists. The sound is more frequently heard than the bird is seen, and the focal point of the argument is—how is the sound produced?

It was once accepted as a matter of course that the bird drummed by rapidly beating its bill upon a hollow bough, but more recently a small band of ornithologists have stoutly maintained that drumming is a vocal sound. That to-day many well-known naturalists refuse to commit themselves to a categorical denial of the vocal explanation, indicates how little direct observation has been applied to the problem.

Mr. Eric Parker, in his *World of Birds*, advocates the vocal theory for several reasons. He considers that the Great Spotted Woodpecker would not have the strength to produce blows on a tree-trunk which could be heard at a distance of half a mile, and furthermore, that the tree-trunk or branch used as a sounding-board would need to be hollow. He points out that the bill is small, and yet the bird has "sounded" on wood which subsequently proved to be solid. Moreover, he experimented with a model woodpecker carved from wood, causing it to beat upon an oak branch which a Great Spotted Woodpecker had used as a sounding-board, and which had been cut from the tree for the purpose of the experiment. He was unable to reproduce the drumming sound. Taking the other factors into consideration, he assumes that a penetrating sound could not be produced mechanically; but presents no positive evidence of vocalisation, other than that a few observers heard drumming whilst the bird under observation made no movement of the head.

This may not seem to be a strong argument in the face of hundreds of observers' statements that the woodpecker had been seen to beat upon a tree-trunk, but certainly to produce a sound audible at half a mile range needs some explaining.

I have recently had the opportunity of observing the behaviour of three Great Spotted Woodpeckers in a London park, and I set out the following observations and conclusions, having started the inquiry with an open mind on the subject.

Drumming is a deceptive sound, and is not easy to pinpoint, but in an open park in winter, where woodpeckers are drumming on the upper branches of bare trees, it is possible to see the avian operator from most points within the sound-radius. In normal conditions *this radius does not exceed* 200 *yards*, and in my experience the ordinary single call note—and certainly the alarm or anger-cry—carries farther than the drumming. It seems that most observers have been misled by the hollow sound *appearing* to be more distant, leading to faulty estimates of sound range. In any event, it is doubtful if a woodpecker could be discerned in a tree at more than a distance of a quarter of a mile.

Drumming is evidently a territorial assertion, for the park boasted but a solitary and very silent woodpecker which was under observation for three months until Christmas 1949; but the arrival of a strange pair was heralded by drumming from all three birds. If the newcomers came within sight of the old bird, they would be chased away with the irate bird's scolding anger-cry ringing around the park. When they had retired to a proper distance, all three birds would settle down to sporadic drumming.

Not once have I seen a woodpecker drum without moving its head; on the contrary, the movements are violent, the whole body seeming to be employed. The bill, which is always closed, can clearly be seen touching the wood, and the whole operation is so rapid and brief that it might be described as a "spasm." Sound quality varies from place to place on the tree, some spots being comparatively dead; and resonance appears to be governed by the condition of the bark. Black poplars are favoured in the park, and the bird taps in the centre of a crusty bark flake, seeming to feel for the most resonant spot on the rough "sound-box."

Tapping the flakes, or nodules, of bark around the base or a tree-trunk with a lead pencil showed considerable variation in resonance, the best sound being produced by those flakes which had split into thin layers. In some places a large area of bark was dry, laminated and springy, the microscopic air spaces seeming to magnify the slightest tapping. Whilst investigating the bark in this manner, on one occasion I used a hollow wooden pencil-holder, which produced a resonant sound almost identical with the single tappings of a woodpecker. Armed with this discovery, I tapped lightly, but as rapidly as possible, on a suitable bark flake in a clumsy attempt to produce artificial drumming. To my great surprise, after three bursts, a woodpecker flew on to a branch high up in the tree and drummed repeatedly. The following day I deliberately repeated the experiment when I was quite certain that no woodpecker was in the vicinity, but as soon as I tapped, I heard from a distance a woodpecker's single vocal call, and within half a minute she had flown up to the tree and started drumming. With the aid of a park-keeper I had previously proved that my single tapping was clearly heard at 50 yards distance—but here was proof indeed!

Sounds similar to the tapping of a woodpecker can, therefore, be produced mechanically. It seems likely that previous experiments failed because it was not appreciated that the tapping agent made a contribution to the quality of sound. The woodpecker's bill is merely a reinforced shell, and appears to play an important part in sound production; this may account for the reported higher pitch of the Lesser Spotted Woodpecker's drumming, since its bill has roughly half the air-space of its larger cousin.

It seems unlikely from my experiments that a solid, artificial bill could produce any semblance of the sound quality which the woodpecker evokes; particularly if the "sounding-board" is hit hard. Heavy blows produce a dead note—to achieve resonance the tapping must be smart, and rebound from the bark as the drum-stick rebounds from a drum.

The probable explanation of reports of birds drumming without moving their heads is that the "drum" was performed by a second bird out of sight of the observer. Woodpeckers, particularly in America, have been seen to drum on metal, such as corrugated-iron roofing; and from my observations it seems likely that any springy or vibratile material could be used by the bird as a sounding-board.

In summing-up on this question which has so excited the attention of ornithologists, we should, therefore, consider the following facts:

The sound range (audible to human ears) of a woodpecker's drumming is considerably less than previously estimated, and not in excess of similar sounds made artificially.

Each movement of the woodpecker's head results in a correlated percussion sound, observations having been made at less than 15 yards' range, with binoculars. Moreover, the bird's bill is closed during the course of the drumming process.

The sound is not necessarily dependent upon the tree-trunk being hollow or rotten, but upon the condition of the bark, the elevation of the sounding-board, and the acoustic qualities of the surrounding terrain—i.e., the presence of other trees may tend to amplify vibration produced by drumming. The quality of sound appears also to be affected by the amount of air-space in the striker, the rate of strike and the condition and material of the sounding-board which is employed. Moreover, resonance cannot be achieved by heavy or "chiselling" blows.

The sound range of drumming is not in excess of the vocal call-notes; rather do observations show that, in most circumstances, the vocal call-notes carry farther.

Single taps made by a woodpecker whilst moving about the tree-trunk are as audible as the drumming sound, but chiselling blows whilst searching for food are much less audible and have what may be described as a "dead" quality.

Since the anger-note of the bird is often uttered on the wing, during skirmishes, it would seem reasonable also to expect drumming to be heard if the phenomenon were vocal, but to my knowledge no observer has ever reported this sound as emanating from a woodpecker except when at rest on a tree.

Consideration of these facts leaves little room for doubt that drumming is a mechanical note produced by percussion; and whilst opening up an interesting avenue of acoustic research, it finally disposes, in my opinion, of the vocal protagonist's cry that so "penetrating" a sound cannot be produced by artificial means.

Eric Hosking

THE GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER: For more than a decade the "voice" of this bird has been the subject of controversy among ornithologists. In his article Mr. Rignall brings to light some facts regarding the woodpecker which have previously passed unnoticed, and which most dictionaries appear to by-pass, preferring not to be committed on the questions of how the woodpecker produces the remarkable drumming sound. In his *World of Birds*, which is considered an authoritative work, Eric Parker supports the vocal theory regarding the drumming, but Mr. John Rignall's researches between September 1949 and January 1950 tend very strongly indeed to disprove the theory

A FEMALE GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER: In this drawing John Rignall, author of the accompanying article, shows the bird drumming at a sounding-board on a black poplar. The movement of drumming is violent, and the whole body seems to be employed in the task

ILLUSTRATING THE MOVEMENT OF A WOODPECKER DRUMMING: This drawing by John Rignall is based on his field sketches

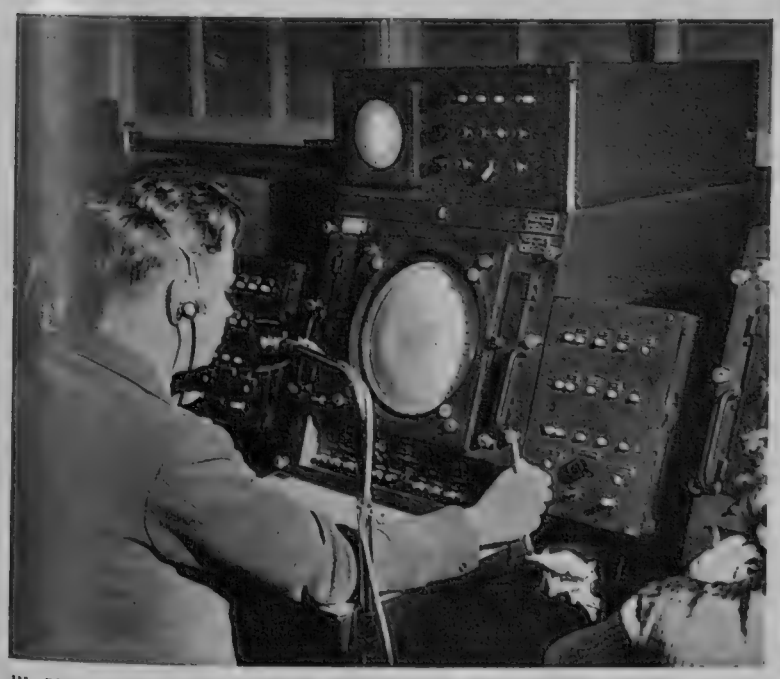
LONDON RADAR

The World's First Long-Range Radar Commercial Air Traffic Control System at London Airport

A LONG-RANGE TRAFFIC POLICEMAN FOR LONDON AIRPORT: The long-range "Microwave" Radar aerials and transmitters at London Airport. Two large aerial systems 25-ft. in length are used, mounted on a 25-ft.-high tower. The aerials revolve at a speed of four revolutions per minute

CHECKING THE HEIGHT OF AN AIRCRAFT APPROACHING LONDON AIRPORT: A radar controller's assistant watches the radar height-finder. Aircraft within a radius of 130 miles of London can be seen on the screen and guided in to safe landings

A CO-ORDINATING CONTROLLER AT NORTHOLT: His job is to supply advance information to the radar controllers concerning aircraft which are arriving at or departing from the airport



IN THE RADAR "OPS" ROOM AT LONDON AIRPORT: *On the left*, a radar controller is seen talking to an aircraft he can see on the radar screen. Immediately above the large radar screen is the automatic cathode-ray direction-finder. *On the right* is the Operations Room, with radar controllers and their assistants on the left and co-ordinating controllers on the right. The room is kept in partial darkness and is housed in a small building on the western edge of the airport

Civil aircraft within a radius of 130 miles of London can now be seen and guided to safe landings by radar. At 20,000 ft. four-engined aircraft can be picked up 130 miles away, and twin-engined machines 110 miles off. At 10,000 ft. four-engined liners will be visible at 90 miles and twin-engined at 76 miles. This is the result of the installation of a new long-range radar equipment, which weighs nearly 60 tons and contains nearly 1,000 valves. The new system, known as "London Radar," is able, at the moment, to handle thirty aircraft per hour, and is initially available for nine hours per day Monday to Friday, and four hours on Saturday. Gradually it is hoped to increase the hours of watch. It uses two large aerial systems 25-ft. long, mounted on top of a 25-ft. tower, and these aerials revolve at a speed of four revolutions per minute. It can transmit impulses lasting only one-millionth of a second, but of the very high power of 750,000 watts, or nearly 1,000 h.p. The "echoes" (or signals reflected from aircraft) are remotely displayed on the ten radar screens in the Operations Room, where display consoles use the now familiar cathode-ray tube. They provide the controller with a picture in the form of a map centred on London Airport of the aircraft seen by the radar. In addition, two radar height-finders are employed to check the heights of aircraft, and a VHF cathode-ray direction-finder is used to assist in the identification of the aircraft. This, the first long-range radar air-traffic control system in any country to be accepted by civil airlines for routine operations, opens at London Airport next Wednesday.

EXILES FROM THE ASTURIAS: Herminio Prieto with his wife and one of their three sons outside their humble home in one of the mining areas of South-Western France, where he has lived in exile since the Spanish Civil War. Unlike many thousands of the other exiles, Prieto could return to Spain. He calls himself an "economic refugee" because he says the conditions of living are very much better for the average worker in France than they are in these very hard times in Falangist Spain

THE OTHER SPAIN

THIS SIDE OF THE PYRENEES

South-Western France, The Home of the Exiles of the Spanish Civil War

Ever since the end of the Spanish Civil War there have been two Spains in Europe. On one side of the Pyrenees flourishes the Spain of General Francisco Franco, on the other side, on the soil of France, the other Spain exists—in misery and bitterness.

When the final victory of the Falangists was reported from Catalonia, 1,700,000 "reds" escaped over the French border and there founded, on French soil, thanks to the tolerance which France has always shown to refugees, a new Spanish Republic.

The attitude of the great Powers towards the Franco Government during the first few years after the end of the civil war reinforced to a certain extent the position and the political authority of this exile republic, and the refugees were full of hope for the ultimate overthrow of Franco.

For three years the newspapers of Paris, London and Washington were anticipating the imminent fall of Franco's Government. But because of the tension between Russia and America, the political situation rapidly developed in a contrary direction, which gradually began to dim the hopes of these Spanish exiles.

The Spanish exiles now no longer have any great illusions about their chances. It is impossible to say whether these refugees will one day re-establish a liberal and democratic Government in their country, but the political authorities of the exile Government installed in Paris, though having a considerable reputation outside Spain, have little or no following within the country itself. Thousands of Republicans who have become weary of exile during the last few years have now returned to their country. Many have managed with difficulty to establish themselves again in their home towns.

350,000 Spanish refugees are still living to-day in France. Amongst these are a number of terrorists who are accused of political massacres and who would be immediately shot should they cross the frontier into Spain. But the majority of the exiles remain in France because they do not wish to live in a Falangist state.

The majority of these Spaniards protest loudly against being labelled "reds," and this protestation would seem to have some justification. The statistics of the French Department of Political Refugees show that only 16 per cent. of them are Communists, or "reds" in the true sense of the word. 45 per cent. are Social Democrats, 35 per cent. are anarchists, and 4 per cent. are Monarchists. These three groups are all staunchly anti-Communist. From Toulouse, where they have their offices, they carry on a tenacious battle.

For the French authorities these Spanish exiles present a difficult and dangerous problem which is constantly under consideration. The police have to keep a close watch on their political activities. The Communist group take part in the activities of the French Communist Party, although the other groups do not concern themselves with the interior politics of France.

The Minister of Labour has to attempt to incorporate these refugees in the different branches of the national economy. Most of these exiles, even those who were Civil Servants, business men and intellectuals in their own country, are now working in the factories or the mines, where there is a shortage of French labour. 90 per cent. of the refugees live in those departments which are near the Spanish frontier, and when the wind blows from the Pyrenees they have at least the illusion that they are breathing the air of their native country.

IT MIGHT BE THE GRAND ARENA AT SEVILLE, BUT IT IS NOT: These exiled Spanish ladies living in Toulouse brought out all the finery of past days for a popular fête given by *L'Espagne Libre*

ONCE HE KNEW MIDDLE-CLASS AFFLUENCE: Señor Torresgrosa was the editor of a political newspaper in Alicante in pre-Civil War days. Now he works as a miner in South-Western France

DONA ISABEL IS THE DAUGHTER OF A SPANISH UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR: For twelve years she has lived in exile in France, but she still practises her music

EXILED PROFESSOR GOMEZ WORKS IN A FRENCH FACTORY : In his free time the Professor repairs the shoes of his wife and their four children. Professor Gomez could return to Spain, but he prefers the free, unfettered life and the slightly higher standard of living of French workers

DECAZEVILLE, IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AVEYRON, IS ALMOST A SPANISH MINING TOWN : About 40 per cent. of the workers in the mines are refugees from Franco's Spain, and, needless to say, they have brought to Decazeville many of the manners and customs of the Asturian mining towns

TROOPS OF FREE SPAIN MARCH IN THE STREETS OF TOULOUSE : During the German domination of France the Spanish exiles took a leading part in the Resistance movement, and the uniforms, arms and ammunition which they wore on the occasion of this victory parade were all stolen from the Germans in the years of underground warfare

SPANISH EXILES DEMONSTRATING IN A SQUARE IN TOULOUSE : These demonstrations are a feature of political life in South-Western France. The theme is invariably anti-Franco, but there are many cross-currents created by splinter parties and minority groups. Hardly a Sunday passes without one or other section appearing on the streets with flags and banners

AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE FREE SPANISH SOCIALIST PARTY : This is the strongest and the largest of the Socialist groups among the exiles, and from the headquarters in Toulouse there pours out a constant stream of propaganda. The Socialists are not recognised by the executive of the French Socialist Party

ENRIQUE DE FRANCISCO SPEAKS BENEATH AN OUTSIZE PORTRAIT OF KARL MARX : Francisco, here seen addressing the Annual Congress of the Socialist Party, over which he presides, is one of the best-known figures in "The Other Spain," but he is very far from uniting round him all the exiles, particularly the Communists, who have a most elaborate organisation of their own

EXPORTING SCHOOLS TO AUSTRALIA

And Other Pictures of the Home News

TWENTY-SIX ALUMINIUM SCHOOLS LEAVE A SOMERSET FACTORY BY RAIL ON THE FIRST STAGE OF THEIR JOURNEY TO AUSTRALIA: The decorated forty-four-wagon train leaves the Weston-super-Mare factory of the Bristol Aeroplane Co. (Housing) Ltd., and *right*, an exterior view of the prototype school. Twenty-six Bristol aluminium schools left Weston-super-Mare as part of a £260,000 order for 100 schools, placed by the Government of Victoria. They comprise a cargo for which the S.S. *Trelyon* put specially into the Port of Bristol, Avonmouth. Although the Government of Victoria order is the largest yet received from an individual authority, orders received from all parts of Britain have increased steadily since production of aluminium schools began in May 1948. The school has attracted a great deal of attention in France, and negotiations have begun with firms in Northern Rhodesia, Belgian Congo and Malaya

CHOOSING A NEW HAT FOR THE W.R.A.F.: The Duchess of Gloucester, Air Chief Commandant, W.R.A.F., assisted by a committee of five, selected three hats from which the winning design will be chosen for test and approval by the King. The fashion display was held in the Air Council Chamber in Whitehall. Three W.R.A.F. girls acted as models to show hats designed by fifteen of Britain's leading milliners. On the Duchess of Gloucester's right, sit Air Commandant Dame Felicity Hanbury; and Air Chief Marshal Sir George C. Pirie; on her left are Air Chief Marshal Sir John Slessor; Air Marshal Sir Hugh Saunders, and Mr. F. R. Howard

ABSTRACT SCULPTURE AT THE LEFEVRE GALLERY: Barbara Hepworth chosen to represent British art at the Venice Biennale, stands beside "Biocentive Form in Blue Limestone." The Venice Biennale is held every two years. In 1948 Henry Moore represented Great Britain and won the top prize of £250. Most of the work Barbara Hepworth is to show in Venice can now be seen at the Lefevre Gallery in Bond Street. One subject, *The Gosdon Head*, is made of Armenian bluestone, which is so hard that it could not be cut by normal tools. It was ground with 6-in. carborundum wheels and paper impregnated with diamond dust. Barbara Hepworth is married to the abstract painter Ben Nicholson

LEAD THIEVES STEAL FROM A SAXON CHURCH: The Parish Church of St. John the Baptist in Little Missenden, where nearly a ton of lead was stolen from the roof of the North Aisle. *On the right* is the nave, seen from the South Aisle. The wall painting is of St. Christopher, holding a staff in his right hand and carrying the Holy Child on his left shoulder. The Parish Church of St. John the Baptist, Little Missenden, in Buckinghamshire, notable both for its medieval mural paintings and for its architecture, was recently a victim of one of the thefts which the high price of lead has made common throughout the country. Thieves took advantage of a stormy night to remove nearly a ton of lead from the roof of the North Aisle. The theft occurred during a period of heavy rain and has already endangered the early murals, some of which were successfully uncovered only recently. Much of the original tenth-century Saxon structure of the church remains, and additions and reconstructions from the eleventh to the fifteenth centuries have left excellent examples of the work of the Norman, Early English, Decorated and Perpendicular periods. Damage to part of the structure, as well as to the murals, which belong to the eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth centuries, is threatened by the lack of proper roof protection

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THE REDGRAVE HAMLET

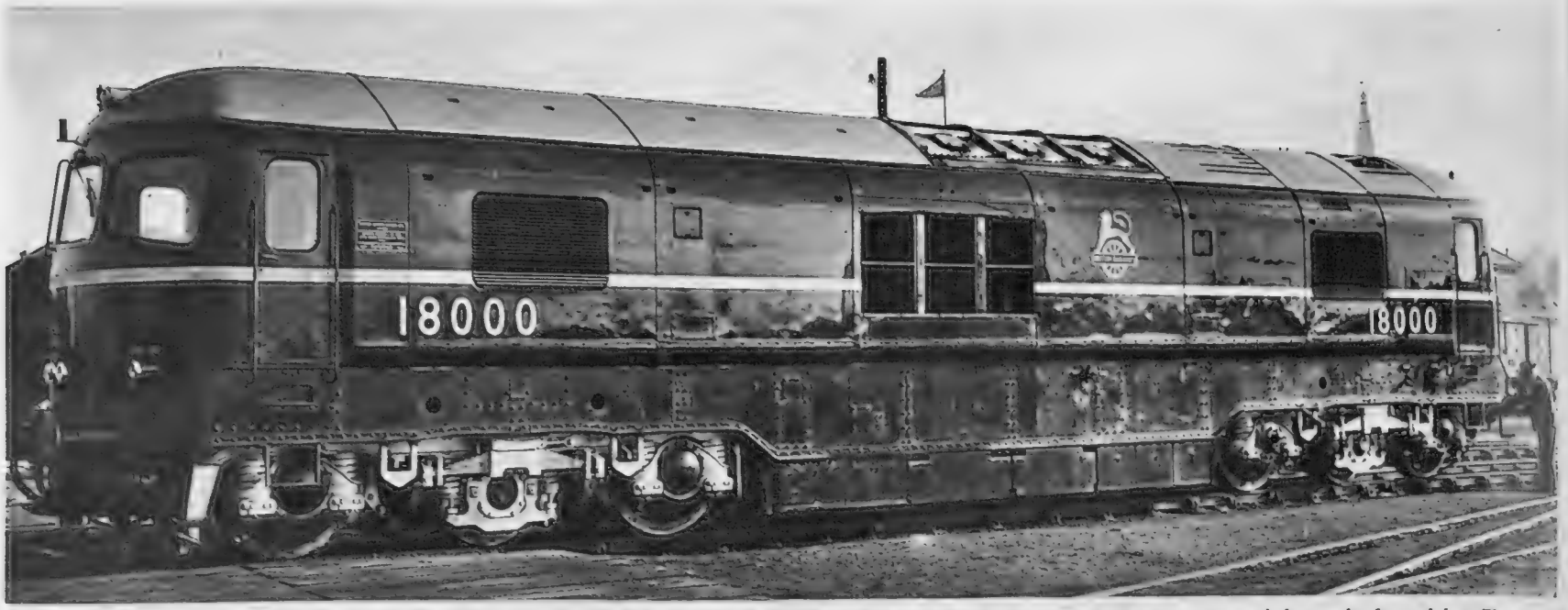
And Other News of the London Theatre

MICHAEL REDGRAVE AS HAMLET AND PETER COPLEY AS LAERTES IN THE DUEL SCENE IN HUGH HUNT'S PRODUCTION FOR THE OLD VIC THEATRE COMPANY AT THE NEW THEATRE. Wanda Rotha as Gertrude and Mark Dignam as Claudius are seated on the right. *Right*—Michael Redgrave takes his first-night bow after receiving a great ovation for his performance. Michael Redgrave's first appearance in London was at the Old Vic in 1936; and during the 1936-37 season he played leading parts, including Laertes in the production of *Hamlet*. Following that season he joined John Gielgud's company and he has played leading parts in the West End and in several films since then. His *Hamlet* has been very well received by the critics, who particularly praised the consistency of his rendering of the part. Hugh Hunt has used an ingenious single set designed by Laurence Irving (a grandson of Sir Henry Irving), who was responsible also for the costumes; and incidental music has been composed by Herbert Manges. A strong company supports Mr. Redgrave, with notable performances by Wanda Rotha as Gertrude; Walter Hudd as Polonius; Yvonne Mitchell as Ophelia; and young Brian Smith as the Player Queen

A YOUNG ACTOR PLAYS OPPOSITE VIVIEN LEIGH: Theodore Bikel goes over the part of Mitch in *A Streetcar Named Desire* with Vivien Leigh in her dressing-room at the Aldwych Theatre. He is reading a telegram of congratulation from Sir Laurence Olivier, who produced the play. Twenty-six-year-old Theodore Bikel came from Palestine in 1947. Within two years he had been "spotted" by Sir Laurence Olivier while acting at the Boltons Theatre and chosen to play a small part in *A Streetcar Named Desire*. He also understudied Bonar Colleano and Bernard Braden, who played Mitch, the young man who fell in love with Blanch Du Bois' fading charms. Bikel is now successfully playing this part after Bernard Braden flew to Canada, where his father is ill

A NEW PLAY FROM A SOMERSET MAUGHAM NOVEL: Reginald Denny, Jane Carr and Jessie Royce Landis in *Larger Than Life*, Guy Bolton's adaptation of *Theatre*, at the Duke of York's Theatre. English-born Reginald Denny returns to the London stage after thirty years in Hollywood

REGINALD DENNY AND JESSIE ROYCE LANDIS IN A BACK-STAGE SCENE IN "LARGER THAN LIFE." They play the parts of the famous theatrical couple who have been secretly divorced but maintain the appearance of married life for the benefit of their public. Jessie Royce Landis, although well known on the American stage, is making her debut in this country, acting with Reginald Denny, who has not appeared here for thirty years, and co-starring with him in the parts they played in the American production of the play. Somerset Maugham, who declared that he would not write another play after *Sheppy* (produced in 1933), has permitted Guy Bolton to adapt his novel *Theatre*. Fifty-eight-year-old Reginald Denny was born at Richmond, in Surrey, the son of W. H. Denny, a member of the original D'Oyly Carte Opera Company. He toured America in 1912 in *The Quaker Girl*. In World War I he joined the Royal Flying Corps, serving for two years. He returned to America and, during an Equity strike, decided to try his luck in Hollywood. There, he made a niche for himself as a character actor and has appeared in over 100 films



BRITAIN'S FIRST GAS TURBINE LOCOMOTIVE ARRIVES FROM SWITZERLAND : The Brown Boveri 18000 has just reached this country and is ready for trials. The engine uses no water and runs on cheap fuel-oil. Its total weight is 118 tons, and it has a top speed of 90 m.p.h. The locomotive will now undergo extensive tests

BRITAIN BUYS A 90-M.P.H. GAS TURBINE LOCOMOTIVE

The Brown Boveri, Built in Switzerland for British Railways

THE SYSTEM OF SUSPENSION IN THE BROWN BOVERI 18000 : The large coiled springs take some of the great weight of 118 tons. There are also four sets of horizontal springs of the more usual pattern

INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE DRIVER'S CAB IN THE NEW GAS TURBINE LOCOMOTIVE : *Left*—The controls. *Right*—A head-on view of the engine

The principles of design applicable to aircraft jet engines are now being applied to railway traction, and before very long it now appears that either the gas turbine locomotive or the Diesel locomotive will oust steam from the railways of the world. In 1946 the former Great Western Railway Company ordered from Messrs. Brown Boveri, of Switzerland, a 2,500-h.p. 90-m.p.h. gas turbine locomotive, and since then the Western Region of British Railways, successors of the Great Western Company, has ordered another gas turbine model from the Metropolitan Vickers Electrical Company of Manchester. Recently the Brown Boveri 18000 arrived at Harwich, and when these pictures were taken the locomotive was being made ready for her trials. The exact performance of this model cannot be revealed, because it is not fully known as yet, numerous important modifications having been carried out since the Swiss prototype first ran a successful series of trials. With regard to the Swiss prototype, however, the following details were given last year in the Western Region Magazine of British Railways, and they therefore give a fairly accurate idea of the capabilities of the gas turbine. The power unit is suspended by three-point elastic suspension from the frame of the locomotive. The set is started by a 100-h.p. Diesel engine, which drives an auxiliary generator of 75 Kw. capacity. This auxiliary generator supplies current to "motor" the main generator up to a speed sufficient for the compressor to deliver to the combustion chamber, air at the pressure required for ignition. The combustion is started first on Diesel oil, which is ignited by an electrically-heated ceramic stick, similar to a domestic fire element. The turbine then accelerates under its own power from 1,300 r.p.m. to about 3,500 r.p.m., when the Diesel oil is shut off and crude fuel-oil injected. Starting from cold takes about four minutes. In 1944 the engine was loaned to the French National Railways to operate passenger trains between Basle and Chaumont. On these services trains up to 700 tons weight were being handled and a round trip of 300 miles daily was being regularly achieved.

The prospect of using gas turbines to drive railway locomotives is conditioned by two main considerations. Higher overall efficiency of the turbine (say 16 to 18 per cent.) compared with the steam reciprocating engine (say 7 to 9 per cent.); better overall efficiency of the Diesel engine (say 27 per cent.) compared with the turbine.

The steam engine, even in its most developed form, costs substantially less than either the Diesel or the turbine, though both Diesel and turbine afford much greater opportunity for high overall availability, due to the absence of necessity to clean fires and ashpans between trips, and, at short intervals, to wash out the boiler.

The performance and length of life of Diesel engines can be gauged with confidence, but their maintenance entails special staff and facilities and the establishment of elaborate periodical examination procedure for their multitudinous parts. The tare and length of the vehicle in which it is housed appears likely to be distinctly greater than a turbine of similar power. This being so, the possibility of using a gas turbine for locomotive purposes must rest on the claim to require substantially less in maintenance, and to be lighter and smaller than the Diesel. The net outcome of these considerations is the tentative view that the gas turbine may eventually prove to be a formidable rival to both steam and Diesel engines.

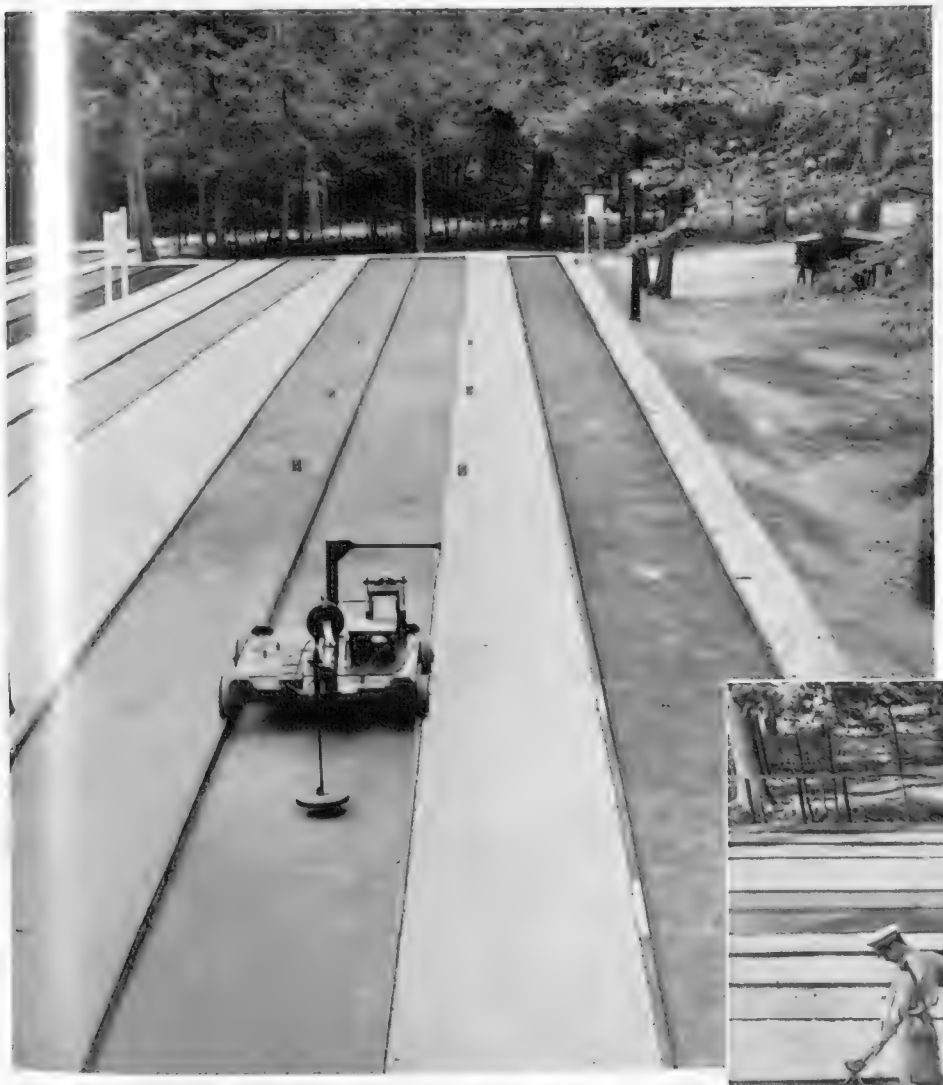
SCIENCE MARCHES ON

The Two-man Submarine Taxi: A New Camera-gun: Experiments in Mine-detection

Halley Hamlin and Orville Sodders built their two-man submarine in eight months at Marathon, on the Florida Keys. It is 13 ft. long and 4 ft. 6 ins. in diameter; weighs 7,500 lb. It has a cruising radius of 20 miles with a speed of 4 m.p.h. and carries sufficient air supply for two men for thirty-two hours, or one man for sixty-four hours. It will dive to a depth of 1,000 ft. and move underwater or crawl along the sea-bottom on its caterpillar tracks. The constructors are offering to ply for hire for salvage or other undersea activities

A-1 T. LONG SUBMARINE WHICH CAN BE HIRED AS A TAXI: This interior view of the two-man submarine shows the edal controls and seating arrangement. Halley Hamlin and Orville Sodders, of Miami, who built it, say that ey will hire it out for underwater photography, salvaging or treasure-hunting. On January 28 "The Sphere" ublished earlier pictures of the vessel when it was claimed as an aid to submarine rescues. It has a range of 20 miles and will dive to 1,000 ft.

THE UNDERWATER TAXI COMES ASHORE: The above view of the miniature submarine shows the caterpillar tracks which enable it to move across the sea-bed or manœuvre on beaches



A CAMERA-GUN FOR A MAHARAJAH: The twenty-six-year-old Maharajah of Jodhpur returned to India last week after a six-months holiday in Britain. In the above picture he is seen with the rifle-butted camera-gun which was designed for him by Wallace Heaton, of New Bond Street. It has interchangeable F.2 (about 4 ins. diameter) and F.3·5 Leica lenses, which can take shots of objects up to half a mile from the operator. The camera-gun has two triggers—one automatically moves the film and sets the shutter; the other releases the shutter. It cost £400

TESTING MINE-DETECTORS AT FORT BELVOIR, VIRGINIA: *Above* are the lanes of different types of soil under which the dummy mines are buried and, *on right*, U.S. soldiers walk the lanes to test the experimental mine-detectors. Test discs and test blocks are buried in the soil at different depths. All soil types in the world are represented in these lanes at the Engineer Research and Development Laboratories at Fort Belvoir, since different soils affect the sensitivity and operation of mine-detectors in different ways. The search head of the detector is specially mounted on the trolley in the picture *above*, so that it remains exactly the same height above the ground-level as it moves along

1. THE TAKATSUKASA'S MAKE A ROYAL MATCH

2. HIROHITO'S DAUGHTER KAZUKO

3. YEN HSI-SHAN, FORMOSA'S DEFENDER

4. THE PAINTING JOHNSTONE TWINS

5. GANDHI AND BRINGOLF AT BERNE

PEOPLE:

SOME PERSONALITIES IN THE WORLD'S NEWS

1 and 2. TIDINGS FROM THE JAPANESE COURT REGISTER : The engagement of Princess Kazuko Takanomiga, second daughter of the Emperor Hirohito of Japan, to Toshimishy Takatsukasa, eldest son of Prince Nobusuke Takatsukasa, would have been in pre-war days an occasion for national celebrations in Japan. To-day the news in Tokyo passes almost unnoticed. Since 1945, when Emperor Hirohito declared false the conception of his divinity, he has lived among his subjects with quiet unostentation. So is it also with the parents of the bridegroom in this forthcoming royal marriage, for Prince and Princess Takatsukasa have renounced their titles. Their son has a job in the Japanese Travel Bureau.

3. FORMOSA, THE LAST BASTION : The Chinese Nationalist Premier, Yen Hsi-Shan, has been performing the duties of Nationalist President in the absence of Li Tsung-Jen. The Premier has been getting Formosa ready to fight the Red attack on the island when and if it comes. He says : "With or without U.S. aid we will defend Formosa. Sooner or later there will be a third world war, because there must be a war to stop Communism."

4. THE ARTIST TWINS : Twenty-one - year - old twin sisters Anne Grahame Johnstone and Janet Johnstone, daughters of the painter and designer of stage and film costume Doris Zinkeisen, are both artists. They studied at the St. Martin School of Art together, and now do their paintings together. First they discuss the work, then draw the rough sketch, each contributing. After this they agree which portion of the finished work each will do. They are holding their first exhibition of paintings at Foyle's art gallery. Their mother, Doris Zinkeisen, and their aunt, Anna Zinkeisen, achieved their artistic reputation individually, Doris as a theatrical designer and Anna with posters and other semi-stylised compositions which have had a great influence on modern commercial art.

5. DEVADAS GANDHI IN SWITZERLAND : The son of the late Mahatma Gandhi, a well-known Indian journalist, has been on a visit to Switzerland, where he has had talks with M. Petitpierre, the President, and several other members of the Government. He is here seen with M. Bringolf, a Swiss parliamentarian.

6. KREISLER HONOURED AT SEVENTY-FIVE : Fritz Kreisler, the great Austro-American violinist, who at ten years old won the gold medal for violin playing at the Vienna Conservatoire, and who at fourteen made a tour of the United States, was entertained by musical colleagues and admirers at the Ritz-Carlton, New York, on the occasion of his seventy-fifth birthday. In this picture Kreisler is seen shaking hands with Bruno Walter, the distinguished conductor, who was among those who turned up to honour him Mrs. Kreisler is seen on the right with Nathan Milstein, the violinist. Kreisler made his Berlin debut in 1899, and he first appeared in London in 1901, where he was acclaimed for his technical perfection.

7. POET AND CONDUCTOR COMBINE FORCES : Mr. W. H. Auden, Pullitzer prize-winner, is seen with composer-conductor Leonard Bernstein, who has made a symphonic poem from Auden's "The Age of Anxiety." The work has been set to a ballet by Jerome Robbins and will be given its world premiere during the forthcoming season of the New York City Ballet Company at the City Centre. The season begins on February 21.

8. RETURN OF ANTHONY QUAYLE : Mr. Quayle, who has been leading the highly successful tour of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre Company in Australia, was greeted by his actress wife Dorothy Hyson on his arrival back in London last week. The tour was an immense success, so successful indeed that another tour is planned for the end of 1951. Mr. Quayle has returned with some strong views on Australian affairs, and is a fervent believer in the vast latent possibilities of the continent. Food production, already on a great scale in Australia, could be multiplied fourfold ; industries are in their infancy ; vast mineral resources have hardly begun to be tapped. "Here is a great golden continent waiting to be developed," he declares.

9. EINSTEIN MEETS HEBREW EDUCATIONALISTS : Professor Albert Einstein, who has just been elected President of the joint board of the American Committee of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the Weizmann Institute of Science, is seen in this picture conferring with the group at his home in Princeton, New Jersey. Last week-end Professor Einstein was in the forefront of the world news when he issued a warning to the world with regard to the hydrogen bomb, and his latest theory, in which he attempts with one formula to explain everything in the physical universe, was at the same time published in New York

7. AUDEN AND BERNSTEIN GET TOGETHE

8. ANTHONY QUAYLE AND DOROTHY HYSON

6. FRITZ KREISLER (LEFT CENTRE) HONOURED IN NEW YORK BY MUSICAL COLLEAGUES

9. EINSTEIN'S AT HOME AT PRINCETON

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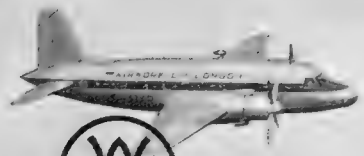

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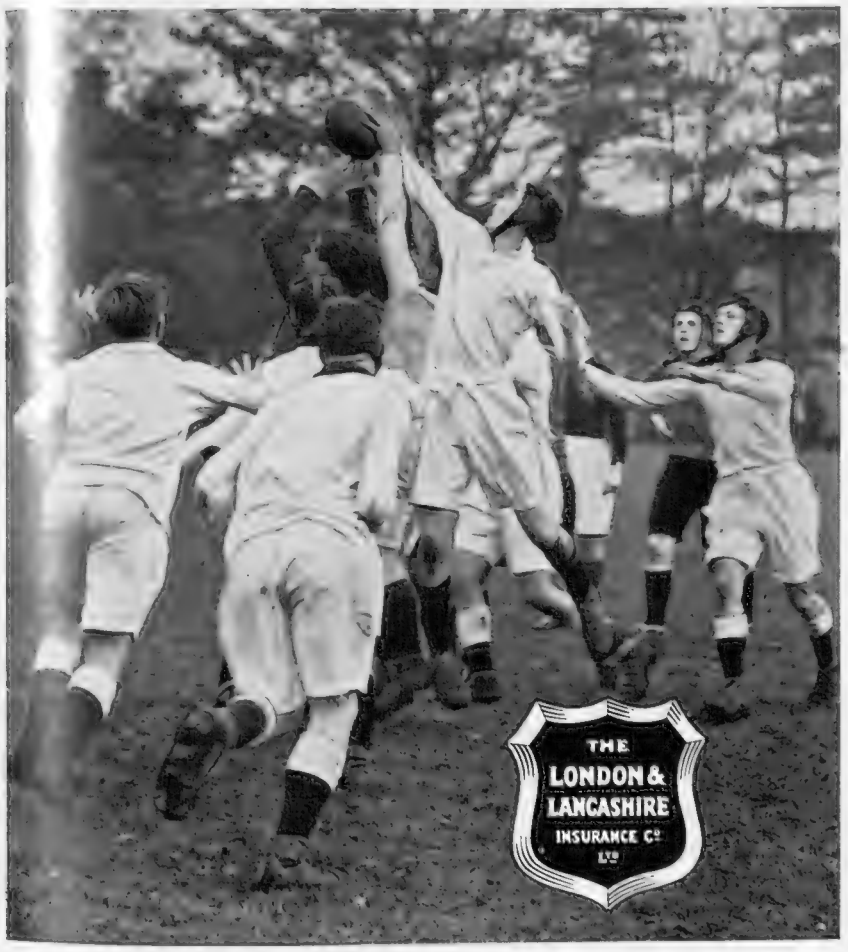

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The World of Books—By VERNON FANE

"PIÈCE DE RÉSISTANCE"

"Courage and Fear," a Continuation of Rémy's Remarkable Story of the French Underground Movement

IF ever a title fitted a book it is COURAGE AND FEAR (Arthur Barker. 15s.), which continues the story "Rémy" began in that remarkable history of the Free French underground network which he called "The Silent Company." It will be remembered that that volume ended in 1942 with the author's escape to England with his wife and children after having been betrayed to the Gestapo. *Courage and Fear* opens with his return to France to re-establish such contacts as survived the fury of the Germans and slowly to rebuild the network in the teeth of an ever more vigilant enemy. Colonel Gilbert Renault-Roulier makes no extravagant claims as to the value he and his brave colleagues contributed to the steadily mounting Allied offensive in the air and to the ultimate victory which resulted in the liberation of Europe. But these men and women, by their unflinching devotion to duty, their skill and, above all, their almost superhuman courage, played no small part in the ultimate saving of countless British and American lives, as well as those of their own countrymen on both sides of the lines. Some of the episodes in this record are stranger, tougher and more thrilling than anything dreamed up in a library of hair-raising adventure fiction. For myself, at least, it makes better reading than any popularised apotheosis of a Nazi general.

Mr. Howard K. Smith's book THE STATE OF EUROPE (Cresset Press. 15s.) deserves not only a careful first reading, but a more leisured and contemplative second reading. I remember his *Last Train from Berlin*, and the interest that it aroused during the early stages of the war, but the present volume is, I find, superior to it not only in interest but in authority. The form that Mr. Smith has given his book is a chapter-by-chapter review of the position of each country in Europe, both by itself and in its relation to the two powerful forces of the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. Thus, writing of France and the "French Devolution," he examines the country's internal politics, and de Gaulle's chances; "the British Foreign Office is dead set against him. The State Department seems to share its opinion. . . . If he banished the Communists in France there is no reason to believe he would not be ready to come to terms with Russia." But he concludes that there is still in France "a pretty stubborn attachment to freedom." Mr. Smith can turn a nice phrase, but he also has an ear and a memory for another man's words, and his quotation of Austrian President Renner's describing his country as crowded by "four elephants in a rowboat" is a good one. Of his own country, the United States, Mr. Smith quotes Sumner Welles as expressing his own views: "The old isolationism has at last learned that we cannot withdraw from the world. The new isolationism holds that international co-operation is a fantasy and that the U.S. must run the world single-handed. No stauncher advocates of that doctrine will be found than in the armed services." This is not just a brilliantly readable book; it is a book that must, and should, be read.

In his foreword to Mrs. Sarah Gertrude Millin's novel, Field-Marshal Smuts writes that at last this distinguished South African writer has done her *magnum opus*. "The story," he writes, "is ostensibly the history of the origins of a very small coloured or half-breed community in South Africa . . . descendants of one white man, Coenraad Buys, and his harem of native women. But in reality it is much more. It is . . . the story of his progress, like some demigod, through the welter of confusion which reigned in South Africa in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. And in the second place, a picture of South African horror such as has never been painted before." KING OF THE BASTARDS (Heinemann. 12s. 6d.) is indeed the story of Coenraad Buys, whose history preceded the Great Trek, who had a powerful, an almost legendary influence on the Africa of his time, and who is remembered to this day by his descendants. One of them, an old coloured man who was making a brick wall for the author, gave her the idea for her book. As he stood there against the unfinished brick wall and his voice was heavy with pride, he said: "Coenraad de Buys . . . White Man."

THE EYE OF THE NIGHT (Hamish Hamilton. 8s. 6d.), by Mr. Christopher Dilke, is a short novel of action of the type in which Mr. Graham Greene has specialised, and which Mr. Greene usually calls an entertainment. Although crime, or near-crime, is the main theme, the story depends upon atmosphere and tension and must move quickly. One does not want to be unfair to Mr. Dilke, so perhaps one had better say at once that any comparison with Mr. Graham Greene ceases with the kind of story it is. Mr. Dilke, for instance, does not seek for spiritual significance, nor do his characters come alive sufficiently to make the reader care passionately about their adventures. It all begins with Stephen Carroll being caught more or less red-handed in an affair with Mrs. Wisden, wife of a leftish intellectual M.P. The outraged legislator smacks his wife's face and she leaves the house. "She would have to take the car; but it was out of the question to go back now and ask her husband's permission." This observation seems hardly to help the tension of the scene which has gone before. But the real action of the story centres in Lenox, an ex-parachuter and deserter, who for some paranoic reason is out to "get" Rosalie, an enthusiastic amateur with whom Carroll, with his all-embracing irresistibility, is mixed up. Lenox achieves what is sometimes referred to as a watery grave at the end of a pier, and that is that. Or, at least, it would be if we could believe in any of it.

"THE SPHERE" ON ITS WORLD TRAVELS: Vice-Admiral J. J. Ballentine, Commander of the U.S. Sixth (Mediterranean) Task Fleet (right), and Lieut.-Colonel S. S. Berger, of the United States Marine Corps, reading a copy of *The Sphere* which carried the story in pictures of an earlier landing by U.S. marines at Ghajn Tuffieha, Malta. When this photograph was taken Vice-Admiral Ballentine had just touched down by helicopter prior to watching landing exercises in which 800 U.S. marines took part

Signor Mario Ghisalberti, in writing an eighteenth-century Venetian romance, adopts the still more ancient device of having discovered an old manuscript, and FLYING FISH (Heinemann. 9s. 6d.), charmingly wrappered by a reproduction of a well-known painting of Santa Maria della Salute, is the result. Flying-fish dart from one wave and dive into the next, shining for a second like silver suspended in the sun. To the Venetian nobleman who is said to write this story, they were the beautiful but fleeting illusions of life as he had known it. He had known amorous adventure on the Thames-side at Wapping, had risked his life as a pirate chasing fabulous cargoes in the Indian Ocean, and had discovered perfect beauty only to find it tainted with vice. Then he had a niece, forced into the unhappiness of a childhood marriage, later to fall desperately in love with a pupil of Tiepolo's. Even from his grave the husband pursues her, until a turn of fortune gives her a new start. Thus the two stories of romance and adventure are entwined with all the grace and embellishment of contemporary baroque. Signor Ghisalberti has a light touch and a charm which has made him the most popular novelist in his own country to-day. He has only to be better known to achieve the same success as his excellent novel *Christopher Columbus* already proved.

There is a great, great deal of the M. R. Hodgkin's detective-story, but the good construction too, and a title so splendid apt that it has the real hallmark of inevitability. The setting is an American co-educational college, and the plot is concerned with murders most foul. STUDENT BODY (Gollancz. 9s. 6d.) therefore, appears to be the only appropriate title for it all. If the reader has the tenacity and the close interest in the story, he can conscientiously attend to every last word that these excessively wordy students and their professors utter. If not, I suppose he might be excused for skipping a very little, and for suggesting that the author equips herself with a blue pencil before the publication of her next book, to which nevertheless, I look forward. M. R. Hodgkin has two great assets as a writer of mystery fiction, and both these assets would show to greater advantage with some paring of the prolixity: she knows how to build up a watertight plot, and she has a real talent for the horrific, as fewer and fewer writers of this kind have.

PHILOSOPHY WITHOUT TEARS?

Mr. E. W. F. Tomlin's New Survey

It matters very little whether Immanuel Kant ate more than one iced cake with his tea, which was said to be a daily moral struggle confronting the celebrated philosopher, or whether René Descartes, as a youth, was deputed to receive for burial the heart of the assassinated Henry IV at the church door of La Flèche. Yet these are the kind of anecdotes with which we are so often regaled in popular books about the philosophers, when surely all that truly matters is the body of thought that they bequeathed to posterity. E. W. F. Tomlin, in his new volume, THE GREAT PHILOSOPHERS: THE WESTERN WORLD (Skeffington. 15s.), does not wholly escape the charge of writing down to his public in a popular manner, and his survey, which covers all the leading names in philosophy from Socrates to Alfred North Whitehead, devotes an exceptional amount of space to biographical detail. Some readers may indeed feel, with justification, that the philosophical pill is being unnecessarily sugared. In his introduction, Mr. Tomlin freely and frankly admits his difficulties in presenting and keeping a balance between "the life" and "the thought" of each of his subjects, and, on the whole, it must be said that his compromise has not succeeded. He should realise, perhaps, that his public may not care to be spared the stern approach essential to an elementary comprehension of philosophy. Mr. W. A. Sinclair, Lecturer in Philosophy at Edinburgh University, proved up to the hilt that there are would-be philosophers in plenty willing to accept hard going in the realm of metaphysics, ethics, theology, psychology and logic when, in 1944, he presented to the world his admirable little introductory volume which most people had to read two or three times before it was thoroughly assimilated. That slim, uncompromising treatise sold out, and must have started many a reader on the road to understanding Descartes, Locke and Berkeley, and to tackling such major works as Whitehead's *Adventures of Ideas*, Mill's *Utilitarianism*, not to mention Plato's *Symposium*, *Phædo* and *Republic*. In fairness to Mr. Tomlin's wide-ranging effort, it must be said, however, that he gives continuity to his biographies, a series of concisely written interludes effectively bridging the gaps between the age of Socrates, the age of Abelard, the ages of Descartes, Kant, Hegel, Nietzsche and Bergson. He writes colourfully and well, but it is much to be doubted whether Mr. Tomlin or anyone else will ever be able to compile a philosophy without tears.

A history of the United States would be incomplete without the name of John Charles Fremont, explorer, soldier and political leader, whose life spanned all but two decades of the nineteenth century, but Edward Nicholas, in THE HOURS AND THE AGES (Victor Gollancz. 15s.), the story of America told in a series of biographies, has certainly overdone his adulation of "the Pathfinder" who ruled like a nabob during Civil War days in St. Louis, and whom Abe Lincoln, of necessity, removed from office. Edward Nicholas, however, despite over-emphasis and grave omissions, including a failure to place in perspective the achievement of Alexander Hamilton, a total neglect of Lee, an under-estimate of Lincoln, presents an American historical pageant of much interest. If Mr. Nicholas tackled the task all over again, and with other men and women as the focal points of his attention, his book would probably be no less entertaining, for the America of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries was rich in personalities, a raw land abounding in greatness

Randolph Churchill, in EUROPE, UNITE (Cassell. 18s.), has produced his edited version of the speeches of Winston Churchill in 1947 and 1948, and we can see at a glance, even if we did not know it already, that Britain's wartime Premier maintained his remarkable oratorical flow, and as ever covered a great deal of ground in his speech-making, from a garden fête at Blenheim Palace to the Chamber of the House of Commons, from an open-air meeting in the square at Amsterdam to the Norwegian Parliament at Oslo. By all accounts he is still doing it.

THE ASIATICS, that engaging narrative of a young adventurer in Asia, by Frederic Prokosch, which was first published in 1935, now makes a welcome reappearance. The publishers are Faber and Faber, and the price is 10s. 6d

The family of waders, mainly birds of marshland and mudflat, is a continual source of interest and pleasure to bird-lovers, because of the lonely haunts in which they are found and the air of mystery which surrounds many of the non-resident species. S. Bayliss Smith, in BRITISH WADERS IN THEIR HAUNTS (G. Bell and Sons. 21s.), discusses the various species which he has observed and photographed in the estuaries, and the book is beautifully illustrated with his own pictures and those of other photographers.

THE BOOK OF THE P.E.N. (Arthur Barker Ltd. 12s. 6d.) brings together in one volume the work of many distinguished authors, such as G. M. Trevelyan, Storm Jameson, Susan Ertz and Enid Bagnold. This is not an anthology, and it has no central theme, but it offers some varied reading for leisure hours.

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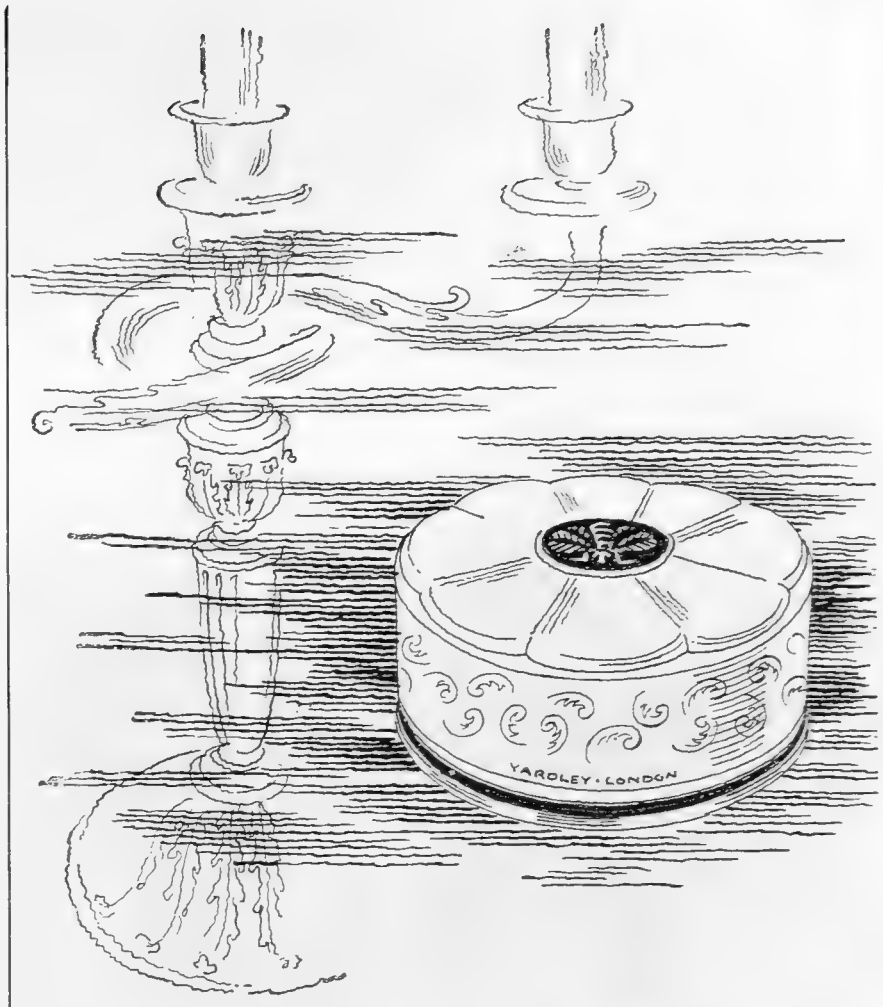

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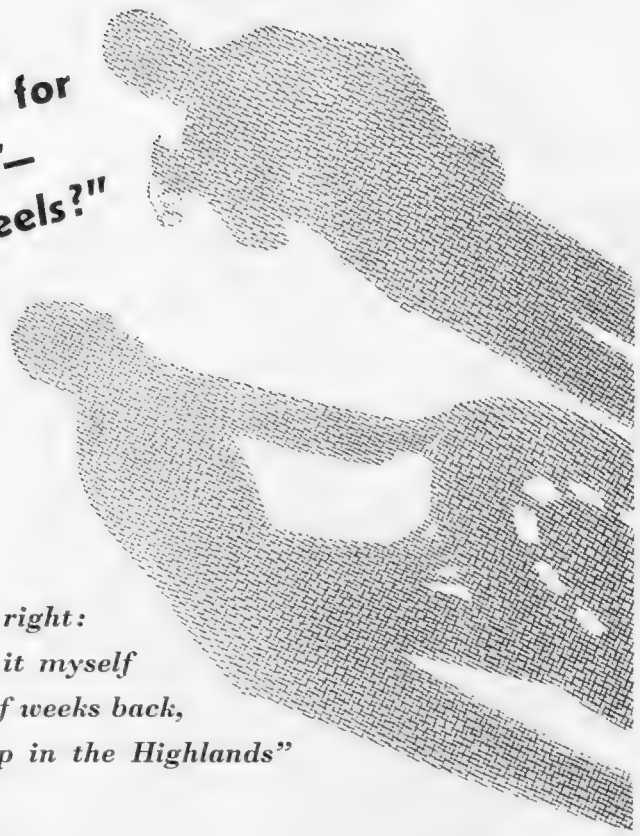

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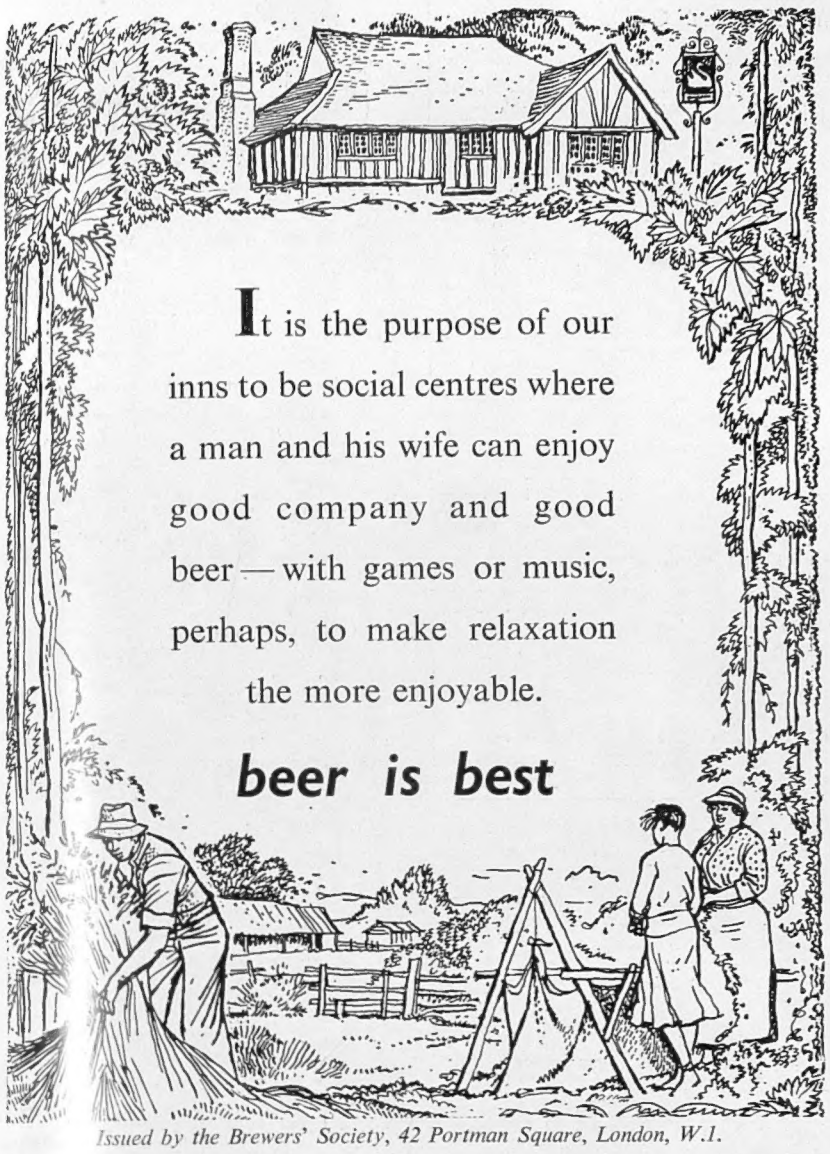

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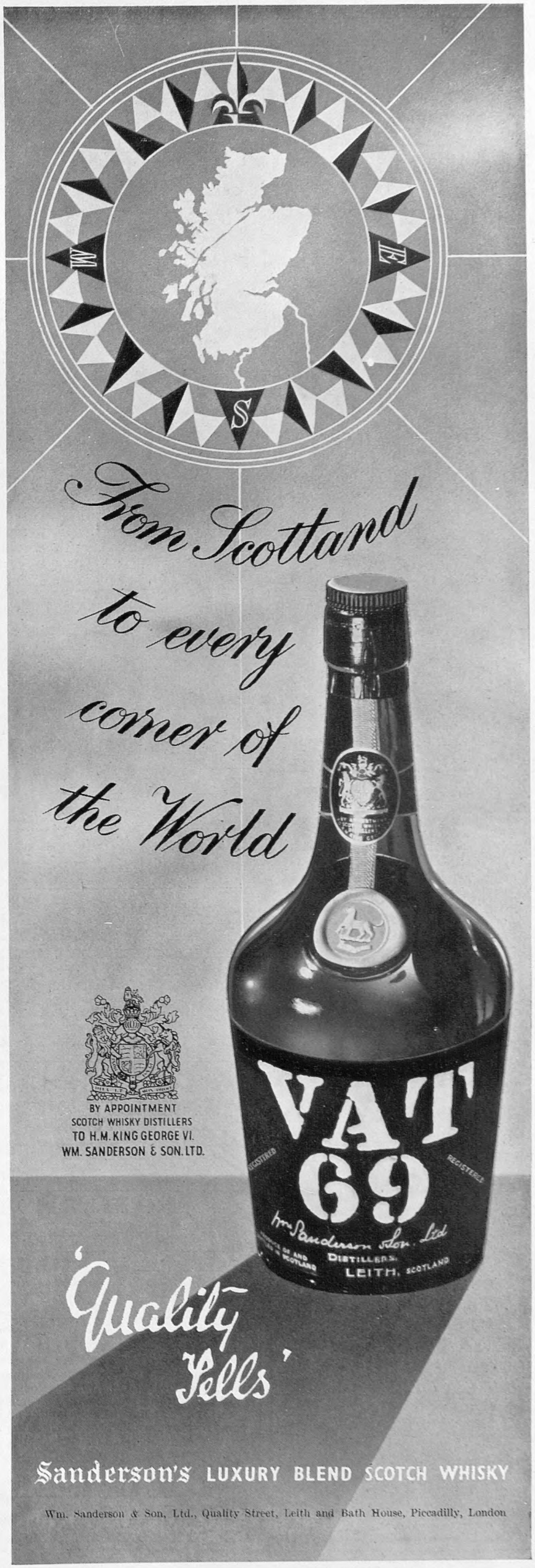

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IN QUEST OF GOOD HOTELS

BY ASHLEY COURTENAY

THE days are lengthening out, enquiries for spring and summer holidays accommodation are increasing in volume, sure signs that the year 1950 is marching on.

A few weeks back I made my first expedition of the year. Snow was threatened from Russia, so I sought out the warmth of the sun at Bournemouth. What a pleasing town this Hampshire health resort is. Here, nature and municipal enterprise give of their best for all ages. Toddlers were tumbling around in her central gardens; those in the autumn of life were sunning in the many shelters on her East and West Cliffs; or were busy on shopping bent.

What an excellent town Bournemouth is for shops and shows. I bought a copy of the local paper. A whole page was devoted to pantomimes, plays, picture houses, ice skating and dancing. No wonder no one in Bournemouth has time to think of dying!

With 3,000 hotels and boarding-houses there is accommodation for all tastes and purse sizes. As is my policy in other resorts, I confine my recommendations to those I have sampled and found good. That does not mean to say there are not many other good hotels. Undoubtedly there are. Amongst my recommendations is *The Carlton*, on the East Cliff. An hotel of which I have to-day particularly high regard. It is one of Britain's best, where the arts of gracious living are practised and perfected. Over 120 people were in residence when I called—a great tribute to able management and a particularly pleasant staff. Limitations of time prevented me from having a meal at either *Marsham Court* or *Palace Court* hotels, but my taxi-driver, who assumed it was my first visit to Bournemouth, endorsed my own view when he volunteered the remark, "Both can be well recommended, Sir."

Then I came to *Tollard Royal*, perched high on the West Cliff, where it was good to be greeted by the same hall porter as I have known for years (a sure sign of good hotel management). Beautifully furnished and beflowered, *Tollard Royal* and its unique roof solarium has something which no other Bournemouth hotel has got. *Bourne Hall Hotel* came next on my itinerary. In a key position for the West Station and buses, *Bourne Hall* has the ever open door for old friends and new faces, whether they come for a night, a month or to live. Largely redecorated downstairs and up, *Bourne Hall*, like its resident managing director, Mrs. Ivy Bray, never stands still.

Around lunch-time I wended my way to an hotel which I have never known to waver in its goodness—*Manor Heath*, in the Derby Road, a five minutes' bus ride from the Square. Here will be found Mr. and Mrs. C. H. R. Hulbert and their daughter Joan, all specialists in dispensing comfort, warmth and well-cooked-wholesome-generous fare. How they acquired their knowledge I know not, but of their ability to serve both young and old there can be no question, for my file of letters in praise of *Manor Heath* steadily grows. I can confidently recommend this quietly situated hotel, in its own acre of garden, five minutes' walk from the East Cliff and sea.

I stayed the night at *Harbour Heights Hotel* overlooking Poole Harbour. A welcome, warm room, a wonderful view, a meal well cooked and nicely presented, were my lot. When that snow comes from Russia, it will be but a news item in this my seventh Heaven—*Harbour Heights*.

Letters, accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope for reply, should be addressed to Mr. Ashley Courtenay, c/o The Editor, The Sphere, Commonwealth House 1, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.1.

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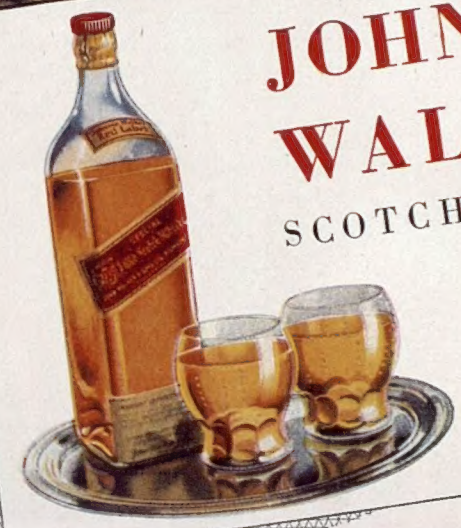
But the pioneering spirit is still strong in me today.



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